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CONTENTS.

| | PAGE | | PAGE | | PAGE |
|---|------|---|------|--|------|
| NOTES OF THE WEEK . . . | 129 | MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES (<i>continued</i>): | | CORRESPONDENCE (<i>continued</i>): | |
| LEADING ARTICLES: | | In Christmas Week. By R. B. | | American Blacks and the Schools. By | |
| The Democratic Reverse in Germany . . . | 132 | Cunninghame Graham . . . | 138 | Philip Alexander Bruce . . . | 142 |
| Mr. Birrell in Ireland . . . | 133 | Some Memories of Gardens—IV. | | The Port of London. By Chas. J. C. | |
| Statesmen and Contempt . . . | 134 | In the West Country, on the Thames, in | | Scott . . . | 143 |
| The Mathematical Tripos . . . | 135 | Holland and in Germany. | | The Mathematical Tripos. By F. C. | |
| THE CITY . . . | 136 | By Alexander Innes Shand . . . | 140 | Constable . . . | 143 |
| INSURANCE: | | Bridge: The Revoke (<i>continued</i>) . . . | 141 | The Unemployed Season. By Joseph | |
| The Mutual Life Case . . . | 137 | VERSE: | | Banister . . . | 143 |
| MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES: | | The Fugitive. By Alice Meynell . . . | 140 | The Swiss Model . . . | 143 |
| The International Society. By Laurence | | CORRESPONDENCE: | | The Queen of Girls'-Book Makers. | |
| Binyon . . . | 137 | Christianity in France. By D. N. | | By Misses F. B. Low and E. R. | |
| | | Samson and another . . . | 141 | Colman . . . | 143 |
| | | | | REVIEWS: | |
| | | | | The Portrait of Himself . . . | 144 |
| | | | | Reflections on Three "Art Books" . . . | 145 |
| | | | | Musa Salopiensis . . . | 146 |

We beg leave to state that we decline to return or to enter into correspondence as to rejected communications: and to this rule we can make no exception. Manuscripts not acknowledged within four weeks are rejected.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Kaiser and Prince Bülow have good reason to be satisfied with the result of their experiment in dissolving the Reichstag. Even though the Clericals after the second ballots are likely to return in full strength, the Socialists are irretrievably defeated, and instead of being eighty-nine strong, as they were in the last Reichstag, the most favourable estimates do not give them more than fifty-five. They have not only lost largely on the first ballots as compared with 1903, but there are fewer places where they can hope to gain in the second. It has always been the aim of the Government to induce the parties who lost in the first ballots to join in defeating the Socialist candidates. To some extent this may be checked now by the antipathy of the Liberals and Radicals to the Clericals. All the parties on whom Prince Bülow relied for the Bloc against Socialists and Clericals have gained in strength. The Kaiser in his birthday message might well chuckle.

The game of the Clerical Centre has not been easy to follow. What did they stand to gain by opposing a Government most fair to Catholic Christians? The fact is the leaders of the party have a very difficult hand to play. The most Catholic part of Prussia is the Rhineland, where there are large industrial centres. Here the Socialists have made considerable headway and especially at Cologne, where in a town mainly Catholic they polled no fewer than 15,661 votes on 25 January. In order to hold their own the Centre must have an industrial policy and they can

point to a long series of social reforms which they wrung from the Government by threatening to go into opposition if these measures were not passed. All this has led to considerable friction and the Government have long been looking for another majority upon which they could rely to carry out their colonial policy. This situation has furthermore been accentuated by the personal antagonism between the new Colonial Director and some of the leaders of the Centre party.

If one can trust the election returns of the peasant and workman votes in Russia, the parties which are called Moderate are likely to preponderate. But there is great doubt about these classifications, and a further stage in the elections must be reached before any definite conclusions can be drawn as to the parties in the Douma. One might suppose that the Constitutional Democrats had wholly disappeared in the crowd of Moderates. The peasants also are said to have shown, by some two-thirds of their delegates, that they are not in favour of compulsory expropriation of land. There have been no disturbances and the polls have been large. M. Stolypin has issued a circular to the provincial authorities as to the elections. They are not to mix themselves up in party politics, nor to interfere in the election campaign more than is absolutely necessary. The Premier re-states the Government policy: preservation of order, loyalty to the law and the Douma, in its proper sphere, and constructive social reform.

In France the bishops have made an important move. As one of the results of the recent conference they suggest an arrangement which might enable public worship to be carried on in the churches without any surrender of the principles of the Church. A contract is suggested between the prefect or mayor on the one side and the parish priest, or bishop, on the other side for the use of the buildings by the Church for religious purposes. The building would legally be the property of the State, but during the continuance of the contract would be available only for Church purposes by

the regular ecclesiastical authorities. The difference between this arrangement and an association cultuelle, which the Church rejects, is essential. The association might be all laymen; some of them might not be Catholics, or Christians at all; and the authority of the bishops is formally ousted. The contract proposed avoids all these objections. This move at any rate kills the suggestion that the Church in France is courting persecution for tactical ends.

Meantime the Government has got the Chamber to vote the bill to abrogate legal notification of public meetings—this is not the first time the Government has had to go back upon itself in its anti-Church campaign. But it was not done without some very painful passages. M. Allard, a robust anti-Christian, attacked the Ministry for its cowardice; which M. Briand took as a sign of "subterranean influences at work to undermine the Government's position". Still more terrible was M. Clémenceau's speech, later, practically throwing over M. Briand, and apologising to M. Allard. The Prime Minister's point was that he could not help himself. He was not satisfied with the Separation Bill; but it was a question of that Bill or none: there he was, there he must stay. So M. Briand goes out of the House in a huff. M. Clémenceau goes out after him; and the two dear colleagues come back together. M. Clémenceau says a few pretty things to make up the quarrel; and the House cheers. But the incident has left its mark. In passing, M. Clémenceau contemptuously dismissed the bishops' proposal. This, however, need not be taken as finally settling the matter.

The Conservatives have returned to power in Spain, with Señor Mauret as Prime Minister. The new Ministry seems to be well received. It is made up of "Centre" Conservatives (it is impossible to steer clear now of the technical jargon of party politics), some of whom are men of mark. Internal development and social reform, for which quiet abroad and the avoidance of controversy at home will be necessary, is to be the object of Señor Mauret's Cabinet. There will be no attacks on the Church; but it should not be described as a Clerical Ministry. Spanish Liberalism seems to be in a hopeless way for the present.

According to a report from Washington Sir Alexander Swettenham has withdrawn his letter to Admiral Davis and tendered an apology. As it was not a letter a gentleman should write, we can be glad that he has taken the right step personally to redress his offence. This, of course, is no suggestion that he was not acting wisely in requesting the admiral not to land his men. Nor does the British Governor's apology in any way excuse the American admiral. It is pleasant to find Sir Alfred Jones, Mr. Jesse Collings, Mr. Hamar Greenwood and the others of the party all bearing emphatic testimony to the Governor's thought, resource and resolution. It is now said that the deputy chief of police gave leave to the American admiral to land men; but the admiral had no right to act on a minor officer's word: he was bound to consult the Governor. Not too much attention need be paid to the Kingston meeting censuring the Government of the Colony. It is a way with the white inhabitants of Crown Colonies to be discontented with their officials. Mr. Olivier found it necessary to beat down a good deal of opposition, but to very good result.

Het Volk is sorely exercised as to the Chinese problem. It realises that to repatriate the coolies would be to bring instant disaster on the Transvaal. Yet if its anti-Chinese policy were openly avowed, its chances at the polls might be seriously prejudiced. On the other hand the Nationalists are determined that the Chinese must be sent out of the country at the earliest possible moment. In a speech at Johannesburg on Thursday Mr. Smuts said the real issue before the electors is whether the Transvaal is to govern itself or whether they were prepared to hand the Government over to the Chamber of Mines. The real issue of course is something very different. It turns on the question of labour. The opinion now is that the problem will be solved by a "deal" between Het Volk and the mineowners.

Not alone in Great Britain is trade booming; from Canada and Australia come accounts of extraordinary business activity and general prosperity. In Australia labour has become so scarce that the Government have materially modified the regulations as to immigration, and there should be excellent opportunities for the new arrivals, whose numbers for the first time for many years show a tendency to increase. It is the same with Canada. Business and immigration in 1906 were both records. The two great colonies have seized this time of prosperity to open up negotiations with a view to a preferential tariff. The movement in favour of closer commercial relations, without taking Great Britain into immediate consideration at all, is unquestionably growing. Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Mr. Deakin, judging from the papers presented to the Canadian Parliament on Tuesday, hope to be able to arrange a Canadian-Australian tariff policy at the Colonial Conference in London.

Mr. Lloyd-George made an interesting speech at Walsall on Monday outlining the new plans of the Board of Trade to help British traders. He is going to wake up the Consuls. In future they are to go through the Intelligence Department of the Board of Trade. Our eyes and ears, so far as knowledge of foreign trade is concerned, are our Consuls; and it is now proposed to open them. We suppose this will not be retrospective, so that the blind and deaf must linger yet awhile, but gradually the Consulates will cease to be their asylum. We have had great business Proconsuls; now we are to have business Consuls. Mr. George also touched on the census of British productions. When we get at the bed-rock facts, Mr. George seems to believe, we must all be agreed how exactly we stand to-day as a trading nation. That will be a great day, one of complete fiscal disarmament, the Cobden Club and Sir Howard Vincent merging into one another, Mr. Asquith and Mr. Chamberlain laughing and wondering how they ever could have stumped the country against each other.

Only vacancies in the Cabinet interest the public: of the Parliamentary and Under Secretaryships it knows and cares nothing. And it must wonder why editors of newspapers who thoroughly study circulation should trouble to give pictures of lesser props of the Administration the morning after these have been set up. On the "magazine page" appear the latest portraits of Mr. Macnamara, Mr. Runciman and Mr. Hobhouse; and with their appointments we may all assume that the crisis in the life of Government and nation too is over. Mr. Hobhouse will sustain India under Mr. Morley; Mr. Macnamara becomes Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board; and Mr. Walter Runciman was so discreet in answering questions about foreign affairs that he has been made Financial Secretary to the Treasury. We have no doubt that the permanent hands in these State Departments will find three promising and industrious pupils.

Pupils of course they are in practice, and a very good thing for the country too; for if new Ministers were to come into the great spending and organising departments as teachers, not pupils, the effect would often be appalling. This wise system of tutelage is thoroughly understood among the chiefs of the departments. We remember a Chief Constructor of the Navy rising from a conversation in his room at the Admiralty, and saying simply enough, "Excuse me, it is half-past eleven and I must now go and give the Financial Secretary, who will be waiting, his final lesson—the Estimates are coming on this afternoon, you know."

Dr. T. J. Macnamara's appointment to the Parliamentary Secretaryship of the Local Government Board is a recognition of the value of expert knowledge in the House. Recognition, as of course it would, takes a form which can make no use of this expert knowledge. This is the British way. Mr. Macnamara has existed in, by, and for elementary education, therefore he is put in charge of housing and public health. However, we are glad that his hard work and devotion to public business should be recognised. The Local

Government Board has two strong voices to speak for it now; it should be heard even over the din of party politics.

Will the result of the resolution passed at the Belfast Labour Conference on Woman's Suffrage be Mr. Keir Hardie's retirement from the Parliamentary Labour party which he leads? The resolution was to give equal voting rights to all men and women—universal suffrage. This would bar Woman's Suffrage effectually, as those who proposed it very well knew, and this is really an ingenious way of blocking it. By their taking this line in the House of Commons Mr. Keir Hardie might find himself deserted by his own party and his Bill rejected by them. He sees the move clearly enough, and as he is in earnest about Woman's Suffrage it offends both his honesty and his amour propre as leader. They want to kill his Bill because the women enfranchised under it would be of the better classes and vote "capitalist", as they say. As most other women care nothing for the suffrage, and the men care as little, Mr. Keir Hardie's opponents have nothing to fear. They can always profess that they are better suffragets than he is. It looks as if Mr. Keir Hardie had been outmanœuvred.

In spite of the Liberal-Labour combination in North-East Derbyshire, Mr. Harvey shed one thousand of the majority of his Liberal predecessor, Mr. Bolton. Dr. Court, on the contrary, did very well. Polls in by-contests are seldom so high as at a General Election, but Dr. Court polled within some eighty votes of his last year's record, while the Liberal-Labour poll fell by over a thousand. Notwithstanding his professional position as secretary to the Derbyshire Miners' Association, Mr. Harvey was not in fact an ideal Labour candidate. There were wheels within wheels.

There are very few writers on current politics in England to-day who are "followed" and who influence opinion. Mr. Labouchere was unquestionably followed for years; and Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Stead and Mr. E. T. Cook occur to one in the same connexion. Why the Liberal party, by the way, should not avail itself of Mr. Cook's services nowadays it is hard to understand; there appear to be Liberal newspapers in London not so rich but that they could add much to their distinction by so able an editor. Mr. Massingham, we see, is not to be overlooked in this way; he is to be the new editor of the "Speaker". It is a very natural appointment. Mr. Massingham has long been recognised as the best descriptive writer in the House of Commons' gallery, and he has strong views which, like Mr. Cook, he has always declined to prostitute. His judgments of men and measures in Parliament are not always very convincing, but they are rarely uninteresting.

By three to one the Irish judges on Wednesday refused to commit Mr. Walter Long for his reference to the Leitrim case. Lord Chief Justice O'Brien, Mr. Justice Madden, and Mr. Justice Kenny agreed that, though Mr. Long's words amounted to contempt of court, they were not likely to interfere with the course of justice. Chief Baron Palles held, on the contrary, that there was aggravated contempt and that Mr. Long should be severely fined. We notice that the Liberal press thinks Mr. Long should be thankful for his escape. But is escape quite the right word? Three to one is surely a substantial majority, especially with a Lord Chief Justice flung in. Mr. John Burns' "escape" was at least as near a shave. He was mulcted in Ministerial reputation surely, if not in substance, being reproached by one of the judges for a speech "improper, grotesque, violent". This is not a party matter and ought not to be treated as such. But if it comes to politics, what can be more absurd than the Liberal pot affecting to be scandalised by the blackness of the Conservative kettle?

The Royal Commission on the Metropolitan Police has at length decided to stop taking the evidence of Tom, Dick and Harry who believe that they have been rudely treated. The evidence will fill many pages of a blue book, and nobody be a whit the wiser or better through it. The clear fact is that the hope of the

disorderly that the London police would be discredited to some extent through the Commission has now completely vanished. We all know, what we knew long before the Commission was set up, that there are a few corrupt and a few somewhat brutal men in "the force", as there must be in every body of the kind; and that on the whole the police do their work with admirable patience and with zeal and intelligence.

"Si vis pacem &c." sums up Colonel à Court Repington's lecture on Peace Strategy, delivered at Aldershot on Wednesday under the presidency of Sir John French. All the possibilities and problems which war may bring must be worked out in time of peace. Unfortunately for the British Empire as at present constituted the idea is not so simple as was Moltke's before the war with France. Great Britain is not a nation trained to arms, and if she were she has no power to say what the colonies would do in any given set of circumstances. Sir John French frankly pointed out that no really effective plan of Imperial defence can be arrived at till the resources of the whole Empire are available and subject to central control. Colonel à Court feared to talk of conscription. But he made it pretty clear that he has little hope of success for Mr. Haldane's "final effort to satisfy the needs of our security by voluntary recruiting".

The reports of railway companies for the half-year lately ended make it clear that the first class traveller is growing scarcer. In one company, for instance, there were fifty thousand first class passengers fewer in 1906 than in 1905. Nor do these first class fares seem to have become second class fares, for the second class has shrunk even more remarkably. Third class travellers, on the other hand, have hugely grown—on one line by a million and a quarter. Have the first and second classes grown economical of a sudden and taken to travelling third? Probably the explanation of the change is not to be sought here. Authorities believe that the motor is the chief cause of the falling-off in first and second class receipts. The train takes the traveller from station to station, but the motor takes him from door to door, and in shorter journeys, especially slow journeys across country, this is a great consideration. If motors become very cheap the third class itself may wane in its—compulsory—popularity; but that will not be exactly yet awhile.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, speaking at Ramsgate on Monday, had no difficulty in vindicating the action of the bishops and the Church generally in opposing the Government's education bill. It is a very easy case to argue. But the Archbishop seemed to have some sort of misgivings, not as to his action—far from it—but misgivings lest the public should have the idea that he had been a little too intransigent. The suggestion is humorous to those who know. But the Archbishop, and all who care about religious teaching, must expect that all who do not care—a considerable item in the "body of central opinion" referred to by the Archbishop—will always think those who do are too intransigent. It is just caring about religious teaching at all that is too intransigent for these indifferents. We cannot see much hope for the Archbishop's amiable suggestion of a settlement based on agreement with the Government. Public opinion may one day agree upon a settlement, but it will not be one this Government will put into effect.

Sir Michael Foster's sudden death on Tuesday came as a shock to his many friends. His great work was the foundation of the biological school at Cambridge; and not merely his own subject of physiology but all the cognate sciences owe much of their vitality to Foster's vividness as a teacher, and to the insight with which he picked out the men who could be inspired to do original work. At one time Foster's influence was really exceptional for anyone in an academic position, and this he owed not only to his personality but also to the fact that he was as much at home in London as in Cambridge. From 1881 to 1903 he was one of the secretaries of the Royal Society. As lately as last week he was at work in the laboratory of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis. Wherever public work had to be done for science, Foster could be counted on for effective

efforts both in committee and on the platform; he was an active member of the Committees of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine and of the Lawes' Agricultural Trust; even the very day before his death he spoke with all his old lucidity and weight at the Mansion House for the British Science Guild.

The original work to which Sir Michael Foster's name is attached is surprising in the smallness of its volume and its comparative unimportance. Paradox as it may appear, his scientific reputation was to an extent due to his literary skill. Foster's great Text Book of Physiology was something more than accurate and lucid, it was human and alive; men read it eagerly and with enjoyment, and felt that they had entered into the possession of a new kingdom of the mind. "Saturday" readers will know with what ease and grace Foster could handle a scientific argument, the large human light in which he saw things. Just in the same way Foster's speeches were exceptionally effective; there was no conscious art, least of all any oratory. But after all it was in the charm of the man himself that Foster's influence chiefly lay—the personal kindliness, the interest in small men and things, the instant appreciation of good work and a good word, the humorous melancholy monologue and the sudden burst of laughter at the end.

At the inquest on the death of Mr. Whiteley evidence was given to show that his murderer has been known from boyhood as Horace George Rayner. A Mr. George Rayner has made a statement to the effect that he has educated and reared him from boyhood, having acknowledged him as his son. So that Horace George Rayner had no right to the name of Whiteley, which he assumed as he assumed others. Beyond this nothing is publicly known; but it is said there were relations between Mr. Whiteley and Mr. George Rayner, and upon this the vultures of the sensational Press have fastened and revelled in reports and suggestions as to the claim of the murderer to be the son of Mr. Whiteley. Unfortunately, we must say, Rayner seems likely to recover; and if he does it is only too probable that there will be a disclosure of painful family secrets, whether they have or have not furnished the motive of the crime. So far no details, however, have come from Rayner himself; they are all the rakings of the reporters.

Peaceful picketing is still going strongly in the music-hall strike. It will be a blessing when it comes to an end, and the Strand is free from shouting mobs and litters of handbills. According to the opinions of people who ought to know, there is no reason why the dispute should not be settled by arbitration; but each party thinks it can beat the other, and so at present is full of fight. It will be rather awkward for any stars who have broken their contracts if the music-hall managers win, as there will likely be a large crop of actions for breach of contract. It is, however, a question which side have broken their contracts, apart from the harshness of the terms. If the managers, as asserted, did not keep the terms agreed on, the performers are not breaking contract in going on strike. Otherwise they are. Why did not Miss Lloyd and Mr. Hurley, and other well-paid stars, go on playing and drawing their salaries, and then hand over the money to the Federation? This would have added much to the stamina of the strike.

There was really no need for Mr. Justice Darling to drag the "vicar's wife" into the Gertie Millar libel action. Actresses have as much right as vicars' wives to resent being photographed in ridiculous positions created for them by the photographer fiend without their consent. Our Mr. Justice "Puck" meant, of course, that actresses are more accustomed to be photographed amidst out-of-the-way accessories, and may be presumed to be less sensitive than vicars' wives, who are not. Suppose that is so; anyone may make himself ridiculous if he will, but why should he be made ridiculous by a photographer? And the photographer has the "cheek" to say he is making an artistic picture of you by putting your head on another person's body! We are sorry that Mrs. Monckton lost her action; it might have checked the photograph nuisance a little. Still, if actresses suffer most from it, they encourage it most by their itch for notoriety.

THE DEMOCRATIC REVERSE IN GERMANY.

FEW Germans ventured a short week ago to foretell the result of the General Election. The ablest political meteorologists were at fault. Some, it is true, prophesied a Socialist disaster, but could give no reasons for their belief. They talked vaguely of those abstentions which at previous elections had varied from 25 to 32 per cent. Three million voters had remained at home instead of going to the poll in 1903, and it was thought possible that these comfortable bourgeois might vote for the party of law and order. The most sanguine supporters of the Government based their hopes upon other things. They did not expect a reduction in the Socialist vote. A few eminent Catholics of light and leading deplored the decision taken by the Centre on 13 December. Some of these men contested constituencies as National Catholics; others signed addresses and wrote to the papers protesting against the action of the Centre. Their influence was exaggerated, and it was thought that there was a rift in what German Catholics fondly call the Centre Tower. Many ministerialists who despaired of stemming the onward tide of Social Democracy thought they would break down the majority against the Government by reducing the strength of the Centre. Others anticipated that the change would be infinitesimal, that all parties would return pretty much as they left the Reichstag and that Prince von Bülow would be forced to make friends once more with the Centre and govern as they wished. All these forecasts have come to naught. The Centre has up to this lost two seats and gained one, whilst the Poles who vote with them on religious questions have improved their position. On the other hand the Social Democrats have been beaten in what they thought impregnable strongholds. Berlin is to all intents and purposes as bound to them as it was in 1903; but they have lost seats in Breslau, Leipzig, Königsberg, Magdeburg and in Saxony. Herr Bebel retains his seat in Hamburg by a slightly reduced majority. Herr Eduard Bernstein, the leader of the Revisionists, who considered his position in the western division of Breslau so secure that he only spent a few days in his constituency, is numbered amongst the fallen, whilst the uncrowned King of Bavaria, Georg von Vollmar, that able and accomplished nobleman who once fought for the Pope and bled for his King, is bound to face a second ballot in Munich and may possibly lose his seat. As a whole the party who expected to win from ten to thirty seats have won Mülhausen in Alsace, but have lost twenty-one of the constituencies that they held in the last Reichstag. Nothing is more infectious than defeat, especially where a party has based one of its claims to public confidence on its almost unbroken series of successes. Twenty-nine seats are now held by the Social Democrats on the first ballots as against the fifty-six that they had won in 1903.

Few can gauge how many they will secure of the ninety-two seats they are fighting on the second ballots. The "Liberal Union", who usually supported Socialist candidates on the second ballots, is now supporting the Government and hardly ought to vote for the anti-National Socialist programme. There is some talk of an understanding with the Centre, but their religious and social antipathies are too deep. Never has the prestige of Social Democracy sunk so low since the septennate elections of 1887 when their strength fell from twenty-five to eleven. They have shown intolerance of Liberals and even of advanced Radicals. They have preferred to stand alone in belief in their irresistible strength and can hardly complain if they whose cooperation they have despised in the past refuse to come to their help in the day of adversity.

It must however be recognised that there were people who had some inkling that a change was coming in Germany. There was evidence that the bourgeoisie was waking from its apathy. The registers of voters were open for public inspection from 28 December to 4 January. On previous occasions some 98,000 Berlin voters had been to the Rathaus to see whether their names were properly inscribed. On this occasion more than double the number, 207,000, went to see

the lists and there was a corresponding increase in the numbers of claims and objections from 3,200 to 8,700. Nothing has in the past done more to break up the forces of the German bourgeoisie than their subdivision into groups; but on this occasion many of them forgot the distinctions between Liberal and Conservative, National and German Liberal, German Liberal Union and German People's party, and rallied to the support of a common candidate. On the other hand the Socialists forgot that they had a policy or reserved it for their annual party demonstrations. They hoped to gather into their net all the discontented elements in German society. Bread and meat had risen substantially in price. The wages of Government employees of all grades had remained stationary and there was considerable dissatisfaction in the ranks of the Civil Service who could not hope to better their position by going out on strike. Scandals had doubtless occurred in the colonies. Officials had forced the natives to work for less than a halfpenny a day. There were stories of official brutality. Natives had in some isolated cases either been flogged to death or maimed for life. It was admitted even in the official publications that every soldier who took part in the campaign in South-West Africa had cost the Government £500 a year. Money had been squandered with the most reckless extravagance, and the firm of Tippleskirch had been able to pay their shareholders 115 per cent. in one year. In fact incidents of a character most painful to all patriotic Germans had occurred, and these facts did duty at Socialist meetings. Orators and audience alike forgot that there was such a thing as the organisation of the Socialist Commonwealth. They preferred to appeal to the discontent latent in every country, and omitted to offer their hearers the attractions of a positive programme of their own. They were able to retain the support of their comrades; they even secured the adhesion of all the discontented elements in Germany; but they forgot the necessity of inspiring enthusiasm in their hearers or of acquiring converts to the cause of the Socialist State. So much was it forgotten that many argued that Herr Bebel was the only genuine Socialist left in the land and the cause of Socialism itself came to a standstill.

The Kaiser and his Chancellor have understood their people better than their demagogic leaders. There is a vast amount of latent but still active patriotism in Germany. Bavarians, Württembergians, Saxons and Hanoverians are gradually losing all recollection of their separate nationalities. They have witnessed the restoration of the German Empire, the reawakening of Frederick Barbarossa from his long sleep and the flight of the ravens from the Taunus-berg. They remember that this revival of past glories is as much the work of German Liberalism as of German Toryism. They have seen their country increase in wealth, in population and in power and they are proud of its growth. It is all very well for Socialists to argue that the army is unpopular and that they possess the power of setting the private against his superior. There may be some truth in their contention that most of the reservists are Socialists and object to return to their colours. Possibly, until the soldier gets his gun in his hand and hears the old familiar sound of the word of command. Then everything else is forgotten but duty to the common Fatherland. In the same way Socialist orators forgot that when they denounced the growth of the army and the development of a navy they were running counter to the prejudices of their audiences. In dwelling upon the errors and shortcomings of the army in South-West Africa they were rousing opposition to their own propaganda. These partial errors were complicated by the introduction of new elements into political warfare. The Socialists and the Centre have hitherto been the only organised forces in German politics. The middle classes have now waked from their long lethargy. The Landlords' Union and the "Reichsverband" or Imperial Association for combating Social Democracy have done yeoman service. The Imperial Association has brought many latent forces into play and has earned for itself the abuse of Socialist orators and the jeers of Socialist meetings, but its efforts have told. Still the

victory is but half won. Two hundred and thirty-seven deputies have been returned to Parliament; a hundred and sixty seats must be fought again on 5 February. The cause at issue is the partial or total defeat of Social Democracy. In some instances German Liberals have supported Socialists as against Conservative or even National Liberal candidates in the past, but to be consistent they ought not to do this now. The danger proceeds from another quarter. At previous elections National Liberals have been returned at the second ballots by Centre votes and members of the Centre party have owed their return to the support of National Liberals. There are stories abroad that such is the bitterness in Liberal circles that not only will many Liberals abstain but others will even vote for Socialist candidates. This may produce retaliation. Twenty seats may be retained by the union of the Liberal and Conservative bloc with the Centre party. The "Bloc" has most to gain by a common understanding, for whilst they can certainly return the Centre candidate in eight cases, there are twelve constituencies in which the Centre can turn the balance in favour of the Bloc and against the Socialist. The Socialists realise this clearly and are appealing in each constituency to that minority which can do most to help them. They talk glibly to Liberals of the absolute incompatibility of Liberalism with Clerical reaction and ask them to resist it at all costs. On the other hand they give the Centre endless quotations from the Liberal press and the Liberal leaders in which Clericalism, Catholicism, and even denominational education have been denounced in every mood and tense. They also appeal to them in the name of their common persecution in the days of Prince Bismarck and of National Liberal supremacy.

MR. BIRRELL IN IRELAND.

WHEN a politician is set to difficult and unfamiliar work, it is interesting to try the spirit in which he approaches his task. Mr. Birrell would have cause to complain if his fugitive essays—even though they contain nothing so foolish as a certain speech about slaughtered babes—were taken as a criterion of his practical politics. Yet at this moment it is worth while to remember that in an essay upon "Nationality" some ten years ago he wrote that "to make Ireland and Irishmen self-respectful is the task of statesmen". The essay, slight and brief as it is, seems in some of its other passages to indicate an imperfect acquaintance with the history of Ireland. But it is of more importance to know that the writer assumed that national self-respect was wanting, and believed that it could be created by statesmen—and, to judge from the context, by English statesmen.

There is a certain plausibility in the assumption as to facts, though it is clear enough that a man who writes thus derives his notions about Ireland from association with Nationalist politicians at Westminster. These publicists know that their aspirations cannot be realised unless they can convince the electors of Great Britain—angry though they were when Lord Rosebery said so. Being shrewd observers, they perceive that the British electorate is swayed rather by sentimentality than by reason in matters which can be represented as not vitally affecting its own safety. Thus in England they have always spoken of their native country in a tone which no Scot would dream of taking about Scotland. The *παθητική πίστις*—the appeal to emotion—has been their instrument, and it has charmed English Liberals. But if Mr. Birrell ever gets to know Ireland, he will discover that this tone is a little theatrical, and that the notion of Ireland as a suppliant for England's world-renowned charity will not take him far. Nationalists have by the force of circumstances come to talk in this way, but it disguises their real feelings.

As to the possibility of English statesmen cleansing the soul of the Irish people, Mr. Birrell will be wiser a few weeks hence. Self-respect comes from within, and is not to be inculcated by obiter dicta from a well-intentioned stranger. Irish self-respect is growing, even if it takes repellent forms at times. And that is all to the good, as any sensible Unionist must admit,

for without this virtue Ireland can as little take her proper place in the Empire for which so many of her sons have done fine service as she could hope to be a successful independent nation. The fact that most educated Irishmen have in the past borrowed their standards from their more prosperous neighbour has caused deep resentment in the people, and, as is usual, reaction is going to absurd lengths. The Irish are so sick of lectures about their poverty, laziness, and so on, that their new schools resent any kind of criticism, even indirect. No peasant in an Irish play may swear, no woman may be represented as other than an angel. Once again the good is the enemy of the better, and the popular spokesmen protest against the kind of accurate observation which alone can produce genuine reforms.

And what is the present Government doing to create self-respect in Ireland? Mr. Bryce fell into a very obvious pitfall when he surrendered to the new canting optimism, for we give him the credit, in his attempts to ignore and to conceal the unsatisfactory state of certain districts, of being influenced by better motives than a mere wish to claim that he himself has been an administrative genius. It is the prerogative of academic Liberalism to refuse consideration to inconvenient facts. So the outgoing Chief Secretary tried to please his allies by proclaiming that agrarian feuds are a thing of the past. The kind of praise from an outsider which its receivers know to be baseless is an ineffectual tonic. And, oddly enough, Mr. Bryce seems to have missed a great opportunity in his handling of the University question. His scheme for a federal Dublin University may not be that which the Government will in the end adopt: the fact that he made a sort of posthumous appearance in Dublin to announce it may indicate that it does not bind his successor. But our point is that, whether it be good or bad, its publication at that particular moment showed that the designer—perhaps unconsciously—held that higher education is not a matter over which national self-respect need be considered. For it is clear that the scheme was ready before the report of the Royal Commission had been even drafted. Sir Antony MacDonnell, Lord Dunraven, and Archbishop Walsh are understood to agree with Mr. Bryce, but the Archbishop's colleagues would certainly prefer a different solution, and no University scheme can succeed which does not win their unqualified acceptance. If there is to be a federal University, most Irishmen would prefer to modify the Royal University of Ireland in the necessary direction, thus leaving the value of the Trinity degree unimpaired, and utilising the good work done under great difficulties by Father Delany and his colleagues at S. Stephen's Green. But there are signs that really successful places of education might be built up independently at Cork and Belfast, while a new University acceptable to Roman Catholics might be founded in Dublin. Scotland had four distinct Universities long before her population was as large as is that of Ireland to-day. But Mr. Bryce has his eye upon the English Nonconformists: no mere dog of Irish nationality may bark when Sir Oracle speaks from the political pulpit. Mr. Birrell has an uneasy inheritance in this matter—in which with no reservation we wish him well—and so far as he is an educational expert he is, for obvious reasons, suspect to the Roman Catholic hierarchy, who are already a little uneasy about primary education into the bargain.

But there are many other Royal Commissions. We believe that the inquiry into the work of the Department of Agriculture will show that Sir Horace Plunkett's official career has been productive of very great benefit to his country. If it does, the yell of baffled malice will be even more troublesome to Mr. Birrell than would have been a pæan of triumph from the Department's enemies. Lord Dudley's Commission on the Congested Districts may create a case for legislation on a subject which, apart from political cross-currents, is the most difficult question with which the Irish Government has to deal. Nor is the case of the Irish railways an easy matter. A feeling in favour of their acquisition by the State is growing in Ireland, where financial difficulties never affect the views of enthusiasts. There has been a very valuable report on Poor Law administration, where

there is great scope for reform. Really Mr. Birrell should have his hands full without turning them to constitutional tinkering.

But there are his allies to be met. Mr. Redmond and his friends will not consent to efface themselves while the Chief Secretary engages in schemes of practical reform, and though a University Bill may complicate the Parliamentary progress of Devolution it will not silence Nationalist demands. Had the Unionist Government been wise enough to take the plain line that in the best interests of the United Kingdom the Irish Roman Catholics should be allowed higher education on the only terms possible in the present state of Irish opinion, their power to maintain the Legislative Union would have been actually strengthened. But the present Cabinet of the theoretical Home Rulers is in a more delicate position. English Liberals will obviously be going against their prejudices if they make any concession to denominationalism, and will as obviously make it only in order to shelve the inconvenient question of Home Rule. Yet such a concession will be taken in Ireland only as an instalment of the payment due on Nationalist demand. How are they to evade further payment? They cannot, as Unionists could, say that the University is right but Home Rule wrong. To an English Radical the only reason for supporting the University is that Home Rule is right, and that the Imperial Government must, if it shirks Home Rule, act in Ireland as would a Dublin Parliament. But if Home Rule is still desirable Mr. Birrell will at least have to embark upon Devolution, and then he will be in very deep waters. De Profundis will soon be Mr. Birrell's new song.

STATESMEN AND CONTEMPT.

MR. BURNS and Mr. Long have both within a few days of each other narrowly escaped being found guilty of contempt of court for making speeches on matters which were sub judice. They have deserved the sharp comments which their indiscretions provoked, and the chief difference between them is that Mr. Burns' offence was aggravated by the fact that he is a Minister of the Crown and has not only compromised himself but the office he holds. They have both committed a contempt of propriety if not a contempt of court. As the proceedings in the courts show, it is not an easy thing to get judges to exercise their powers of commitment. Contempt of court is a criminal offence and criminals have usually a right to be tried by a jury; so that the judges avoid as far as possible finding that the offence has been technically committed. They dislike the invidious function of acting as judge and jury, and the ill-natured criticism that they think too much of their own personal dignity. This makes it all the worse that Mr. Burns, who has a dignity of his own to think about now he is a Minister of the Crown, should have played with such sharp-edged tools so recklessly. There is one simple rule of propriety which all discreet persons and newspapers observe when litigation has begun. They say nothing about it until it is over; and when it is they are chary of re-trying it on their own irresponsibility. Decency beforehand, and modesty afterwards, restrains them. There is no hardship in this being required to hold our tongues and keep our opinions to ourselves; and it ought to be easier for a President of the Local Government Board to do this than for other people. But vanity is a great snare, and Mr. Burns could not resist the temptation to make the piquant speech of the evening; the piquancy largely depending on the fact that he was the very person above all others who ought to have had nothing to say about the matter. If this example is followed, we shall have the Home Secretary giving his views on trials at the Old Bailey, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer lecturing the High Court on the decisions it should give in revenue cases.

The official position of the speaker and the occasion of the speech, a public meeting, increase the offensiveness of comments made upon pending cases. Mr. Justice Phillimore does not believe that a man is guilty of contempt of court who says in public "My friend

John Jones, who is accused of disgraceful conduct in bringing an action for libel. I believe he is not guilty. I believe in my friend, and I am not going to be prevented from saying that because an action for libel has been commenced". As this was Mr. Justice Phillimore's statement of the law we must take it so. But if the man is the President of the Local Government Board and the libel concerns municipal or national politics, we shall have a fine condition of things when the leader of the Opposition is to start public meetings to back up Jones' opponent's side of the case and talk the whole affair threadbare before it can come into court. The Burns and "Standard" case has started us well on for something of this sort by giving Mr. Burns licence to say pretty well what he pleased. And he is now in the fortunate position of having the start and said whatever he wanted to say whilst nobody else must say a word against Jones. If he does Mr. Justice Darling has sternly announced that Jones may hale him before the Judges for contempt of court, and it will go hard with him if he comes before Mr. Justice Darling. What about Mr. Justice Phillimore we hardly know. This is not the kind of case in which he is inclined to be severe; he reserves his rigours for culprits whose offences are not committed on Liberal and Progressive platforms. Would he have said that people were mad about contempt of court if he had been a Judge in the Long case? We do not know because he confined himself to throwing a cold douche over his brother Darling's ingenuous warmth about what was to him Mr. Burns' peccadillo. That remark of his as to the madness of people about contempt of court was so extremely icy that in Mr. Justice Darling's heated state it must have given him a cold shiver. A Judge's colleague does not often agree with him in his conclusion with so contemptuous a reference to what he has said in working his way up to it. Mr. Justice Darling's allocation comes to this: I should like to find that what Mr. Burns has said is contempt of court because it ought to be. Mr. Justice Phillimore says in effect: I agree there is no law to catch Mr. Burns, and I am glad there is not for all your explosions of virtuous indignation. Mr. Justice Darling was within a hair's-breadth of declaring Mr. Burns' offence contempt of court: Mr. Justice Phillimore was miles from coming to any such conclusion.

It must not be supposed that the difference was about a question of law. It would be the simplest thing in the world for these two Judges to agree on a definition of what is contempt of court. They only differ about applying facts and bringing them within the definition. Mr. Justice Darling nearly managed to make the definition cover the facts; Mr. Justice Phillimore thought it was not worth the trouble to try. This is really not due to Judges' idiosyncrasy but to jurymen's: for the two Judges were really jurymen of a particular sort in this instance. One sees how the same set of facts strikes different jurors differently. Mr. Justice Darling rather thought Mr. Burns' speech would appear so foolish that it would have no effect. And it would not if all jurymen were sensible; but no one would maintain that proposition. There is another way of looking at it. Mr. Burns' speech might actually disgust possible jurymen on hearing or reading it; and so Mr. Burns would actually have made a speech unduly influencing the jury in favour of the "Standard". Mr. Burns' Progressive friends should pray to be saved from him. Instead of cracking the skulls of their enemies he may have cracked their own crania. And these various considerations all point the moral that the President of the Local Government Board should not allow himself to be at large whirling winged words on a public platform about litigation pending in the courts. Nor should there be any doubt that if to do so is not contempt of court, it ought to be. The case too throws a sidelight on the Bench. Mr. Justice Darling is a Conservative; Mr. Justice Phillimore is a Liberal. Mr. Justice Darling said as much and Mr. Justice Phillimore as little—which was nothing—against Mr. Burns' misbehaviour as they possibly could. One could see the man—the political animal as Aristotle calls him—ruffling the ermine of the Judge. The same thing happened in Ireland: the Liberal Chief Baron being for finding Mr. Long guilty;

the other Conservative Judges for finding him innocent. The risus sardonicus comes involuntarily in appreciation of their respective performances. There are judges who would have sent the tipstiffs to Windsor for the corpus of Mr. Burns. Mr. Justice Phillimore might pronounce a panegyric over the champion of Jones. Quot homines, tot sententiæ; and the sentences of Judges are often quite as much a mixture of personal feelings and prejudices as the opinions of Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Phillimore were in the "Standard" case. There is no need for a Court of Criminal Appeal to re-try Mr. Burns; but when Judges show that they can take such different views of an offence as Mr. Justice Darling and Mr. Justice Phillimore have done, a Court of Criminal Appeal to revise sentences does not seem superfluous.

THE MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS.

CAMBRIDGE men have to settle to-day the great question of the mathematical tripos. Will Cambridge accept the scheme of reform, the principles of which the Senate has already approved, or are the regulations of the present unsatisfactory examination to remain in force? Experience has proved that there is no middle way. The present opponents of the scheme, the self-styled "moderate party", are the same men who wrecked the scheme of reform propounded in 1899. Then, as now, they admitted that the present regulations were unsatisfactory: then, as now, they urged that an alternative scheme might be propounded which would retain the Senior Wrangler and secure much-needed improvements in the curriculum. During the seven years which have passed they have made no attempt to formulate any such changes. And it is well known that on any policy of constructive reform they would be hopelessly divided: they are united by one and only one bond of sympathy, the "retention of the Order of Merit". Not that their criticisms of the present scheme reveal this fact. To the reformers it is the most encouraging sign of the whole weary controversy that their opponents prefer to attack almost every feature of the proposed changes except the abolition of the Order of Merit. That the criticisms are often trivial, often directed against proposals whose desirability none but trained mathematicians can understand, is undeniable; but they serve to convey a vague impression of uneasiness with regard to the proposed scheme, and the opposition trust that such vague impressions reinforced by an appeal to the sentiment of the past will neutralise the tremendous weight of authority in favour of the changes.

With one of their criticisms we may deal at length; it is calculated to cause grave uneasiness to many non-residents, who rightly view with dissatisfaction any suggestion that the teaching of the University may become that of a glorified technical school. In their letter to the "Standard" of 19 January the non-placet secretaries say "Technical and utilitarian features, totally unsuited and most vexatious to a student who proposes to take a full course in mathematics, are to be introduced into the first examination". Examination of the proposed schedule shows that this accusation is based solely upon two points: (1) the slide-rule and logarithms may be used to facilitate numerical calculation; (2) rigid proofs of the most general forms of such theorems as the binomial and exponential are not to be expected from candidates.

Both these proposals, it may be premised, have been approved not merely by teachers in physics and mechanical sciences, but by all the University teachers of pure mathematics. Few competent mathematicians deny that the best examples for testing a candidate's knowledge of abstract principles are often numerical. Such numerical calculation, if the tripos is not to become an examination in arithmetic, is best performed by logarithmic computations. Tables of logarithms may be used in the present tripos, and why the slide-rule, which is an abbreviated logarithm-table suitable when approximate results are desired, should indicate the introduction of vexatious utilitarian features, the non-placet critics have not explained. With regard to the second point, the greatest pure mathematicians in the

country have, during the last few days, reiterated the fact that the proofs of the binomial theorem usually given in English text-books will not bear scrutiny: the developments of modern mathematics have shown that, for adequate rigour, conceptions must be introduced that are beyond the capacity of even good candidates at such an early stage in their career. At present candidates are taught faulty proofs of such theorems: the best men reproduce these in the tripos, knowing them to be worthless, for it would not "pay" to write out lengthy rigorous proofs. We have the dilemma: Is it better to accept as correct arguments which we know to be untrustworthy or honestly cease to demand the accurate repetition of stereotyped plausibility? The pure mathematicians think that honesty is the best policy. They urge that no good teacher will give such theorems to his pupils without indicating the methods by which they may be proved: they suggest that mathematical students can with advantage postpone the full consideration of such methods to a later period of their career. But this sober judgment has been misrepresented, and the Sadlerian Professor of Pure Mathematics and his University colleagues are implicitly portrayed as advocates of the methods of "rule of thumb".

At this eleventh hour it is well to emphasise some of the salient points of the controversy. Out of twenty-four members of the "Special Board for Mathematics", the body entrusted with the supervision of mathematical studies in the University which has brought forward the present scheme, only four are opposing the proposed regulations. All the University teachers of mathematics, both professors and lecturers, support the changes.

The principles of the reform were accepted by the Senate on 25 October last. There is no direct precedent which justifies the unusual procedure adopted by the opposition in again demanding a vote, and their action constitutes a serious menace to the practical working of the University. At the vote on 25 October a majority of graduates who had obtained honours in the Mathematical Tripos voted in favour of the proposed scheme. Lecturers of colleges from which come nearly two-thirds of the present Wranglers support the scheme. At Trinity College the Master and over forty Fellows, Mr. Arthur Balfour who is an Honorary Fellow, and the whole educational staff, including all the mathematical lecturers, are in favour of the proposed reform. Such important societies as King's, Caius, and Christ's are either unanimous or practically unanimous in favour of the change.

Finally, understand clearly that the crucial point at issue is the abolition of the Order of Merit. This order is fallacious: the Senior Wrangler gains his position on a comparatively elementary examination whose results are often confuted by those of Part II. and the Smith's prizes. The Order of Merit exerts an influence on mathematical teaching in the University which is distinctly harmful. It forces men to wearisome revision, not that they may better understand the principles of their subject, but that they may reproduce their knowledge at the highest possible speed. Candidates acquire technical facility for solving new, and therefore increasingly artificial, problems on a limited range of subjects when they ought to be pursuing their higher studies. It is degrading that men of twenty-one or twenty-two should have to submit to the discipline of the racehorse, not that their enthusiasm for study may be keener, not that their knowledge may be more profound, or their mental training more effective, but that an annual advertisement may be secured to a University whose reputation should, and in point of fact does, rest on the brilliance of its teachers and the ideals which they inculcate in those who come under their charge.

THE CITY.

THE first month of the new year has ended in one of the most disastrous accounts on record. It is a curious instance of the inveteracy of habit that men always imagine that the new year is going to bring them luck, and that January is to be the end of the long loans, or the turn of the wheel, or whatever

other metaphor you like. As a matter of fact there is no reason why stock markets should be better in January than in any other month of the year, and as a rule they are not, just because everybody thinks they ought to be. This year markets have opened with a most unpleasant slump in all directions, and for no discoverable reason. When money was really tight, with loans in New York at fancy prices, and our Bank rate at 6, the prices of American rails were stoutly maintained, and South African, Siberian, and Deep Lead Mines all gave symptoms of booming. Now that the Bank rates in Berlin and London are reduced, and the prices of loan money in Wall Street quite low, the stock market has a violent fit of liquidation. Such are the paradoxes of the great gambling saloon cylept the Stock Exchange. The fall in Yankees has been really serious. Canadian Pacifics and Union Pacifics have declined about 20 dollars each, while the losses in stocks like Great Northern Preferred and Northern Pacifics in the last few months are too terrible to record. Large sums of money had been given for the call of Canadas, Unions and Steels for the end of the month, and the speculators must have been very hard hit. That this fall in values had nothing to do with intrinsic merits is proved by the decline of Steel commons to 45, for the Steel Trust earnings are greater than ever. Whether the fall in Americans will go further, or be changed into a rally, depends, not on money or trade in the United States, but on the plans—on the "books" as they would say on the Turf—of the dozen men who hold America in the palm of their hands.

The affairs of the Abrahams-Jonas group of Siberian flotations, Siberian Props, Orsk, and Troitzks, have afforded food for the rage or amusement (according to temperament) of the Stock Exchange. Siberian Props fell during the account from 14 to 8½, Orsk from 2½ to 1½, and Troitzks from 1½ to 1. Whether this collapse was due to "bear" selling, or to a genuine scare among small and timid holders, it is difficult to ascertain: probably to both. The directors, promoters and brokers of this group of mines have been subjected to a series of violent attacks by a Sunday newspaper of advanced Socialist views, which contain as many suppressions of the truth and suggestions of the false as might be expected from that quarter. The board of the Siberian Proprietary have issued a circular to their shareholders which meets the allegations conclusively. Appended to the circular is a letter signed by Messrs. Abrahams, Jonas and Co., stating that out of 116,000 shares, the total issued capital of the company, "over fifty thousand shares" are held by the group, i.e. by the H.O. Siberian Exploration Syndicate, Mr. Orkin, and "our relatives and the members of our firm". This does not look like wholesale "unloading", and we happen to know that the group have bought a great many more shares in the market. Anyone with the most elementary knowledge of company business is aware that the returns filed at Somerset House are quite worthless as a record of actual transactions. For instance, a transference of shares out of the name of A does not necessarily mean that A has sold the shares in the market. We have taken some trouble to ascertain the facts, and we believe that a very fair proportion of the flotation profits have been put back into the market. Outsiders who do not know where the Orsk and Troitzk mines are, their area, the work done on them, or the ore in sight, can easily "crab" them as worthless swindles. The same is said about Deep Leads: the same was once said about Rand Mines. Sane men will probably admit that Troitzk and Orsk shares are worth £1. As the Siberian Proprietary holds 500,000 of these shares and has £215,000 in cash, the shares must certainly be worth more than £7, supposing Orsk and Troitzk do not produce the big returns which are confidently expected. If the Orsk and Troitzk mines turn out to be rich gold producers, and the new copper property, shortly about to be offered to the shareholders, is a valuable one, then £15 was by no means an extravagant figure for Siberian Props. Until the ten days' grace allowed for delivery expires, it will be impossible to tell whether the market has really been

over-sold or not. The South African market is steady, but has lost its recent buoyancy, which is not to be wondered at, seeing that the elections in the Transvaal begin in a few days. The market for Australian Deep Leads continues in an inanimate condition, and it is evident that a good many stale "bulls" have been liquidating. We believe that those who are patient enough to hold on will be rewarded before many weeks are past.

The affairs of the London Trust Company occupy attention and attract adverse criticism. Lord Avebury was the chairman, and Mr. Cosmo Bonsor and Mr. Ernest Chaplin were directors, but having succeeded in losing £500,000, half the capital of the company, they are good enough to retire and leave others to wipe up the mess. We are quite sure that a great deal of the capital was subscribed upon the strength of Lord Avebury's and Mr. Bonsor's names, and it is high time a protest was made against the too common practice of directors, whose reputations are used as decoys, retiring as soon as things go wrong. All the other Trusts have done so remarkably well in the last four years that the London Trust must have been managed with extraordinary incompetence or negligence to lose half its capital.

INSURANCE: THE MUTUAL LIFE CASE.

THE case of the Mutual Life Insurance Company against the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company and Mr. D. C. Haldeman was before Mr. Justice Swinfen Eady for eleven days in last December, and judgment was given this week against the Mutual on all points. The American company claimed an injunction and damages. It was by no means clear from a legal point of view what injunction could be granted at the present time. Mr. Haldeman and the North British were in possession of the names and addresses of Mutual policyholders in this country, but the original documents from which these were obtained had practically been returned to the Mutual. An injunction might have been of use in May or June last, when it was first applied for, but could amount to nothing now. On the actuarial evidence which was given no very strong case was made out that the Mutual had suffered any damage, though if commercial evidence had been given as to the value of the goodwill and of the agency organisation which Mr. Haldeman transferred from the Mutual to the North British it seems to us that very serious damages might have been proved. On the point of law it was therefore likely that the Mutual would lose; none the less the judgment is regrettable by everyone who cares for the insurance business of this country being conducted in the manner to which we have hitherto been accustomed. The Judge seems to have gone out of his way to compliment Mr. Haldeman and the North British. Everything done by Mr. Haldeman was absolutely right and dictated by the loftiest motives, with the single exception of his action in regard to a box of cards containing the full particulars of the policies. He, while manager of the Mutual, sent this to the bankers of the Mutual, and while manager of the North British had it removed to the offices of the North British from the bankers of the Mutual. In regard to this the only comment was that it was fortunate for Mr. Haldeman that the names and addresses of the policyholders which were used to send out North British prospectuses were obtained from another source than these cards. We doubt if the insurance community as a whole has ever been so well agreed as it is about the conduct of Mr. Haldeman and the North British. It is universally regretted that a respectable English company whose manager was at the time President of the Institute of Actuaries should attempt to filch the business of another office. An insignificant agent adopting such a course would have been promptly dismissed.

It seems to have been thought by the judge that the Policyholders' Committee, through whom Mr. Haldeman worked, was an independent body representative of the policyholders. Mr. Haldeman's evidence showed that he selected this committee and that on at least one occasion the notes for a speech by Lord Northcliffe

were dictated by Mr. Haldeman. The real story of the whole matter is this: Mr. Haldeman, the manager of a branch of the Mutual, took up a position of hostility to the head office officials. He selected a few friends, who styled themselves a policyholders' committee, to support his action. While still in the service of the Mutual he received and accepted an offer from the North British to become joint life-manager, that the North British might take over as many Mutual policyholders as possible and obtain the services of the best agents of the Mutual, and he supplied his friends with the names and addresses of the policyholders of the Mutual. Grant that he did nothing illegal, the fact remains that he did all in his power to take Mutual business to the North British. For this action we can see no justification of any kind. We hope its general reprobation will prevent others from following Mr. Haldeman's example.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY.

FIRST impressions of the exhibition at the New Gallery suffer from a vivid realisation of the almost chaotic variety of contemporary art. A second and third visit will certainly yield more pleasure, for one discovers that most of what is best in non-Academic art is represented here, strengthened by contributions from abroad; and some of the finest things are not those which strike most at first sight. The average level is high; a good deal higher, it seems to me, than in the Society's last exhibition. Some of the most interesting paintings, statues, and prints come from abroad; but English art holds its own very well indeed.

Not only new work is admitted, and one or two things in the gallery are already classics. This occasional reference to the recent past adds to our interest in the present. For instance, there is the little "Toilet" by that master of great spaces, Puvis de Chavannes; there are some of the famous earlier etchings of Legros; there is the small bronze "Frère et Sœur" of Rodin, one of the perfect and entirely delightful of his minor creations. Besides this the President sends a marble bust, "Lord H. de W.", and a bronze bust of Mr. Bernard Shaw. The latter disappoints as a portrait; the fun, malice, and irresistible audacity are quenched in the earnestness of a decorous philosopher, even the vivacious eyebrows are tamed and flattened, and the lips look incapable of epigram. Perhaps Mr. Shaw posed to M. Rodin as a great Incompris. Considered without reference to the sitter, it is a fine bust; yet there are subtler qualities in its marble companion, the smoothness of which may disguise at first sight the nervous precision of modelling and that delicacy of which only great strength is capable. The huge bronze group called "Murder" by M. Lambeaux, well known for his colossal fountain in front of the Hôtel de Ville at Antwerp, dominates the central hall. It is too large to be viewed properly, but shows the Rubens-like exuberance and force of the Flemish school, though not, I fancy, one of its author's best works. The rest of the sculpture is interesting and shows a vigorous state of growth, both at home and abroad. Mr. Ricketts' four statuettes are specially noteworthy as showing, unlike the work of most of the younger generation, no trace of Rodin's influence. Nothing he has yet exhibited shows so much power as the "Salome and Herodias", a small group which would lose nothing by being enlarged to heroic size, as I should like to see it some day; even on the smaller scale the two figures, seated side by side in a sinister confidence of expectation, are immensely impressive; the limbs are moulded with firm fulness, not with the nervous leanness more usual in the artist's types; the profile view is quite magnificent. The "Orpheus and Eurydice", two backward twisted figures only held together by a last convulsive kiss, is a dramatic conception, in which rhythm and passion enforce, instead of, as so often, impeding each other. This, on the other hand, one could conceive as wrought in gold or silver as a jewel.

It is when we come to the paintings that we feel acutely the extraordinary diversity of aim and method

in the present day. Just now, there is no movement dominant; one is at a loss to say in what direction we are moving. The fact that everyone seems fighting for his own hand means no doubt a loss of strength; and it is a surprise to find so much good work as there is.

Among French artists of to-day no one is more interesting than M. Blanche. "Venetian Glass", with the motto "Glittering—cold—fragile", is the piquant title of a large picture in the North Room, which is beautifully painted, and in which there is an element of fascination. A dark-haired girl bends toward a mirror trying the effect of a ribbon, and the glass reflects the delicately aquiline beauty of her profile. Her black hair is set off by the lustrous folds of her satin skirt; and with a single gleam of turquoise-blue, and one or two notes of duller orange, a rare colour-scheme is completed. The spice of strangeness seasons the effect. The painting is masterly without bravado, and the only criticism one feels inclined to make is that the canvas is a little too large for the subject. But this is an error in taste which afflicts almost the whole of modern art. Most exhibition pictures are not only a little too large, they are immensely too large for the interest of their subject. Señor Zuloaga's "Vieux Marcheur" is a case in point. As a page from some new version of the Caprices of Goya it would have its place, though the modern painter has nothing of Goya's *sæva indignatio* and remains at the level of his subject, which is repulsive. As a large painting it is, for all its force and character, ridiculously pretentious. If the same fault is not to be found with the proportionate size of Herr Von Stuck's ambitious canvases, they are none the less futile in their straining after lurid sensation. Even his portraits show this strain. One feels him lashing and flogging an exhausted imagination, and all to no result. A very able painter, though always liable to childish theatricality and comically bad taste, he might have been far better represented. Among portraits Mr. Nicholson's "Miss Alexander" challenges attention. The lady is seated in a riding-habit before a large unfinished sketch for an equestrian portrait, apparently glazed, as it reflects her hat which lies on the table beside her. It is a little difficult to decide what the lady is sitting on or how there is room for her; and this, with the picture behind, provides a puzzling, uncomfortable element which one wishes away, for the portrait shows Mr. Nicholson advancing in firmness and delicacy as a painter. Certainly it is a distinguished picture, one of the best portraits in the exhibition. M. Besnard's radiant "Madame Jourdain" has been seen and admired before; it has the qualities of a sketch rather than a painting, immensely spirited but a little empty.

The landscapes are numerous and maintain a high average; one or two stand out with special distinction. Mr. D. Y. Cameron has never surely painted anything better than his "Clyde"; it has freshness of design and is beautiful in tone and colour. M. Emile Claus and M. Georges Buysse send canvases which convey to a marvel the radiance of unclouded sunshine bathing country scenes; but we are accustomed by now to this particular achievement, and the problem solved, we ask for more than this. The pictures are pleasant to look at and to remember, but do not count for very much. Mr. Sauter also is cunning in communicating the effects of radiant sunlight but he can also communicate its charm. The beauty of soft spring sunshine, and the tender colours it evokes from pale surfaces, has been deeply felt by him, and he has the modern feeling for this beauty as it is revealed in London streets. In "Under the Doorway", two women greeting at a room door which opens on to dazzling sunbeams beyond, he has found one of those moments which come to us with the arrest of a beauty suddenly surprised and invading our feelings at unawares; an admirably happy subject, one for painting and for painting only. What contrast in method is shown by M. Cottet in his view of Avila, a ruddy and grey-walled city on a stony hillside! Here is no preoccupation with light and atmosphere, but we are conscious of a true and strongly felt impression on the mind no less than the eye of the painter. There is a delicate and beautiful

realism in M. Bussy's pastels of moor and pines in twilight. Mr. Lavery's "Hammock" is agreeable in colour and much more agreeable than usual in texture; but, again, a far smaller canvas would have been more appropriate. Mr. Charles Shannon's and Mr. Strang's canvases stand out from the rest by their weight and rhythm of design. There are many and rich beauties in the former's "Golden Age", but the upper part of the picture is not satisfying, and the artist will doubtless improve upon it. I think Mr. Strang's two pictures would gain if the composition turned on some definite action relating the figures, who are apt to raise their hands and make gestures for no real purpose. We expect much from one with Mr. Strang's splendid gifts; but he seems often to execute his conceptions prematurely. There is apparently some purpose intended in the figures of Mr. Howard's "The Choice", but I do not understand it; both colouring and drawing lack sureness and instinct: the painter seems feeling his way to stronger things, and for the moment has been too ambitious. Mr. Lambert's picture of a man reading a sonnet to two ladies, one clothed, one nude, on a windy hill-top, is very serious and rather absurd. Perhaps there is some defiant theory behind it (I seem to remember some last-century stir about Hill-top Novels and Women who Did), but this picture appears to me essentially academic. And now I have said nothing of a number of paintings, prints and drawings which it is unjust to ignore and which it would be a pleasure to praise: but these must be left to another time, if the opportunity offers.

LAURENCE BRYNOR.

IN CHRISTMAS WEEK.

THE roar of London slackened, and those pterodactyls of the streets, the motor-omnibuses, seemed to disport themselves like great Behemoth or Leviathan, reducing their creators to an inferior place, as if they lived upon the sufferance of the great whirring beasts.

The white-faced, hurrying, furtive-looking crowds, which throng the pavements for the most part of the year, had given place to multitudes of comfortable folk on shopping bent, who walked less warily than the work-driven slaves, who move about the streets seeming as if they felt that everybody's hand was armed against them, and that to halt a moment in the race exposed them to its blow. A biting frost clad hydrants in steel mail where water dropped from them, and spread white blotches on the wooden pavement at which the cab-horses, inured to petrol patches on the stones, to mud, even to blood after an accident, to paper blowing in their eyes, and all the myriad night noises of the town, shied as at something menacing, so far away had Nature gone out of their lives, as if no vision of green fields in which they played and raced beside their mothers, so stiltily upon their giraffe-looking legs, ever returned to haunt their labour-deadened brains.

The electric light shone blue against the trunks of trees, and the sharp cold almost dispelled the scent of horsedung which perfumes the air of London, as if to nullify all our attempts to set a bar between ourselves and other animals, and bring us face to face with their and our common necessities and origin, laughing at the refinements of material progress, and showing us that the one way by which we can escape the horrors of the world lies through the portals of the mind.

Peace upon earth, goodwill towards all mankind, was the stock phrase in every church, as if to make the bitterness of life outside more manifest, reducing as it did the preachers' words to a mere froth of wormwood on the air, or at the most a counsel of perfection towards which it was not worth one's while to struggle, seeing it set so far out of our reach.

Holiday-making crowds filled Piccadilly, which looked quite unfamiliar without its strings of crawling cabs and prostitutes, plying for hire upon its stones, as eventide drew near. One felt a sort of truce of God was in the air, and that the Stock Exchange, the sweating den, and the gigantic manufactory, in which a thousand toiled to make vast sums for some uninteresting and quite unnecessary man, were quiet,

and that perhaps even the wretched negro in the indiarubber bush might have a day of rest.

The parks, under their canopy of white, turned fields again, and as the dusk came on, the sound of church bells in the air gave a false feeling of security, though one was well aware no tiger-hunted jungle held half the perils of the vast stucco solitude in which we live. Day followed day, cold, miserable and cheerless, and the town left deserted, by the myriads who make it look like some vast ant-hill, on which the ants all strive against each other, instead of helping one another after the fashion of their semi-reasonable prototypes, set one a-thinking on the Eastern legend, framed in a warm and sunny land, and therefore quite unfit for the chill north, which was the cause of such a change in life.

The frosty stars shone out, so cold and clear, they seemed but the reflections of some world extinct, which had preserved its light, but with the heat evaporated. The moon was more congenial to our northern blood, pale, passionless and with an air of infinite yearning after something unexpressed, whilst the full yellow beam of light of Jupiter recalled one to the plains where in far Nabothæa the three kings sat gazing on the stars—a kingly occupation, and one which nowadays all their descendants have allowed to fall into disuse. Perhaps unwisely, for if they followed it, who knows if some particular bright star might yet arise on their horizon to guide them upwards out of the realms of self?

It may be too that all of us are kings born blind, and that the guiding star is shining whilst we sit sightless with our dim orbits fixed upon the mud. Or it may chance that motor-cars, arriving at the stable where the lowly Saviour babe was laid, would have affrighted all the humble company, for the gulf that yawns between the millionaire in his fur coat, and poverty, is wider far than that between the watchers by the ass and oxen's stall, and the three sheikhs who lighted down from off their horses to adore.

Nor was the gulf between the sheikhs, the watchers, and the animals stabled so snugly, with their warm breath making an aureole about the sleeping baby's head, or, folded on the plain beneath the stars, so deep as that which yawns between the modern dweller in our stucco Babylon and his selected breeds of animals rendered so bestial by improvement as scarce to move the pity of their owners for all their various pains.

At any rate, in that old cosmos, with its simple and unreasoning life, so like the life of plants and trees, as fixed and as immutable as are the seasons or the tides, there was a sympathy, unthought of, but all the same at hand, which though it did not spend itself in theories, redeemed mankind from many of its sins. Justice, one hears, is but of modern growth; but in its action on the lives of men it toils a thousand leagues behind the old brutality which, though it certainly denied all rights, admitted kinship, or at least was conscious of a link between all sentient things, just as some deity who had created man in his own image might feel ashamed when called upon to punish and destroy beings so like himself, though for all that he could not hold his hand.

So in the Christmas week, with its fierce cold and misery to thousands mocked by false protestations of the brotherhood of man, and pinched with hunger in the midst of wealth, it must have seemed that all the legend was but another of the corpse-candles lighted to set them running after its thin flame.

Then came a thaw, and all the iron-bound streets became Sloughs of Despond, in which a million horses, turned to machines, chained in their stables, and taken out but to pound ceaselessly upon the cruel stones till it was time to be led back again and chained up for the night, toiled wretchedly, not comprehending that they were agents in the progress of the world. But all the time the church bells pealed, and all the time the planets shone out soft and mellow, making one think involuntarily upon some old bright world which perhaps never has existed save in dreams, but which we now and then have to imagine for ourselves or else go mad at seeing ugliness revered as beauty, and wealth adored as wisdom, with all the meanest qualities of man enthroned as virtues, like a tin sky-sign setting forth some trash with its full-bodied lies. But frost or

thaw, silence or traffic, all was the same to the vast vulgar town, the hugest monument of Philistinism that the world has seen.

The blackened muddy snow, reminding one somehow of something pure defiled, then scorned and cast upon the mire, lay piled in heaps in the chief squares, left there by accident or by design long after it was cleared from off the streets, as if to give the magnates in their shapeless palaces the mumps, and render them as hideous as the great cubes of masonry in which they lived. Misery seemed to reign triumphant in the wilderness of bricks, where dulness strove with smug hypocrisy to make life unendurable, whilst slowly the great city seemed to take up its usual course as the drear week drew out. Ladies in motor-cars, with the hard, uninviting air that wealth imparts so often even to youth and beauty, flitted past, scattering the mud on those whose toil paid for each article of dress they wore, as if they had conferred a favour on the world by deigning to exist. The chill and penetrating damp which rises from the London clay after a thaw, and makes its way into the bones and soul, to them was but another stimulus to life and aid to appetite. Neither the look of wretchedness of men or animals seemed to say anything to them, although no doubt their minds were all alive with charitable schemes; for never in the history of the human race has charity, that most unhumanising virtue which has ever made mankind think itself better than its fellows, walked in our midst so blatantly, or justice hid itself more timidly, than at the present day.

Boys, cold and pinched, with voices rendered harsh by all the gin their parents had imbibed, ran shouting out the names of newspapers, flourishing broadsheets on which the headings told of murders, adulteries, cheating and robbery; and smug-faced citizens and prurient-minded girls, their pink-and-white complexions, strangely at variance with the twinkle in their eyes, eagerly stopped and bought them, jostling the men as if by accident, pleased at the contact with them as they passed, and yet taking offence at once if but a word was said, saving their conscience in the national way, which finds all things permissible if but due silence is preserved.

So dull and strenuous was the life that it appeared impossible in other lands the sun was shining, and that the brown-faced men and merry black-haired women had time to love and be beloved.

But that naught might be wanting to set forth the kindlier aspects of our pomp and state, in a small narrow street well strewn with offal from the stalls of costermongers' barrows, under the flaming light of naphtha lamps, a line of men stood waiting at the door of a soup kitchen at which some charitable soul or council had provided refreshment for the body—that body which, we know, matters so little in a transitory life.

The mud had eaten holes into their clothes, and their pinched faces under the electric light, drink-swollen and blotched, looked corpse-like as they stood shivering in the snow, which, falling down like feathers on their hats, gave them a look as if they had been supers at the pantomime of life, and at some signal from the wing would break into a dance.

The stream of passers-by watched them unmoved, thinking no doubt that idleness or drink had brought them to their present situation; and as they waited for their turn some coughed and others scratched themselves, or muttering it was "ellish cold" shuffled and stamped as the snow melted on their hair and filtered through their rags.

On every side the strenuous current of the world flowed past them, leaving them stranded on the mud, with the safe shores of progress and of wealth slipping away from them, as a spent swimmer, struggling for his life, watches the banks of a swift-running stream race past before his eyes.

Sometimes the line of men swayed like a wounded snake upon the road as one of them passed through the door, and as the others waited for their turn one muttered to a chum, "Blime me, cheer up! it'll be better under Socialism", and spat upon the stones.

R. B. CUNNINGHAME GRAHAM.

THE FUGITIVE.

"Nous avons chassé ce Jésus Christ."—(From a Public Official Speech.)

YES, from the ingrate heart, the street
Of garrulous tongue, the warm retreat
Within the village and the town;
Not from the lands where ripen brown
A thousand thousand hills of wheat;

Not from the long Burgundian line,
The southward, sunward range of vine.
Hunted, He never will escape
The flesh, the blood, the sheaf, the grape,
That feeds His Man—the bread, the wine.

ALICE MEYNELL.

SOME MEMORIES OF GARDENS.—IV.

IN THE WEST COUNTRY, ON THE THAMES, IN HOLLAND
AND IN GERMANY.

THERE are enchanting gardens in Western England, watered by the Atlantic rains and rejoicing in an equable temperature. The average temperature at Polperro is higher than that of Naples. The Scilly Isles and the Channel Islands vie with the Riviera in the truckloads of lilies and crocuses, to say nothing of early fruits and asparagus forced under glass, which they send to Covent Garden. And on the mainland are hotels which know how to advertise themselves by horticulture. To two more specially I was attracted by the gardens, season after season; they were such delightful spots for dreaming away a languid summer morning with your pipe before going in for violent exercise. One was the Imperial at Torquay, where from rockeries, ferneries and shrubberies you looked to Brixham across historic water: the other was the Foley Arms at Malvern, where from hanging gardens embellished with semi-tropical exotics you traced the windings of silvery Severn till the river lost itself in the distant haze. In Herefordshire gardens like that of Holme Lacy on the Wye is an exuberance of rich vegetation. I know gardens in Southern Hampshire and the Isle of Purbeck where the flower parterres break back into the dark pine glades, and it is but a step from the geraniums to the self-sown foxgloves. But Londoners need not envy the dwellers on Wye or Severn: they have their own Thames Valley within easy reach, and the view from Richmond Hill surpasses that from the Malverns. The Severn meanders through meadow and woodland: the Thames flows through flowers from suburban villadom to such retreats as Cliefden, Hedsor and Dropmore, whose leafy avenues meet at Three Noblemen's Corner. Once I made one of a quartet who, bringing our own boat, had our headquarters through July at the "Ship" of Halliford. It was one of the driest and hottest summers on record, and each day from noon to night we were on the water between Kingston and Old Windsor. When wearied of pulling we used to land and diverge. That July has left indelible impressions; we might have been in the Land of Flowers which is the sighing burden of the Norse song in "Sintran and his Companions". Every garden that sloped to the river bank was bordered with brilliant calceolarias and geraniums: the strip in front of the semi-detached cottage was as gorgeously coloured and as carefully tended as the pleasure-grounds of the wealthy banker or brewer at Thames Ditton or Walton. I specially recall the river paradise of Mr. Lindsay the well-known shipowner and member for the shipping interests, where Mr. Gladstone used sometimes to be seen sauntering of a Sunday. But of all the fair gardens on Thames, give me that of Bisham. Like Hampton Court it had something of Dutch formality, well befitting the venerable grey walls of the abbey, and no drought could touch the luxuriance of its wealth of old-fashioned flowers. You loitered among them and paused to listen to the matins of the birds as you came back from the bracing header from

the secluded bathing-house. Some folks object to that trim formality of the Dutch garden. For myself, at Hampton, I always recalled the memories of Wolsey and Dutch William, when of a Saturday or Sunday the vans and omnibuses had disgorged their cargoes of trippers from the courts and slums of London. The flower-beds laid out with mathematical precision, the colours assorted with the eye of a Rubens, the smooth green turf, the broad gravel walks, the stone basins and the murmuring plash of the fountains, had all a characteristic charm of their own, and like the Maze, where couples keeping company would lose themselves, seemed strongly to take the popular fancy.

From Hampton it is a natural transition to Holland, and Holland is emphatically the country of the florist. The Dutchman's favourite pastimes are gardening and skating. Even Dirk Hatteraick, though by no means cast in a sentimental mould, talked of passing the peaceful evening of his days in a lust-haus on the Middelburg dyke with a blumen-garten like a burgo-master. The Hague, with its public gardens and parks, laid out with lavish profusion, is the brightest little capital in Europe. There are flowers everywhere: there are oranges and lemons in the hall of the Bellevue, there are flowering boxes on all the window-sills of the Paulez. The Dutchman's idea of perfect bliss is the arbour among the flowers, looking down on the emerald duckweed on the stagnant backwater, with a big china pipe in his mouth and a bottle of schiedam at his elbow. The treyckshuys and other craft on the canals, like the houseboats of Srinagar, are so many floating gardens. Soil and climate are congenial to bulbs; the very name Haarlem suggests tulips and hyacinths. The business is less profitable than it used to be, but is still a flourishing trade. In April the blaze of the tulips spreads over hundreds of acres; and for miles the scent of the hyacinths hangs heavy in the hazy air. There was a time—Dumas has commemorated it in his "Tulipe Noire"—when the gamble in tulips was as wild and ruinous as that of the South Sea stock or shares in the Mississippi Bubble. Roots which came into the market then were recklessly bulled and beared. Speculation of the sort has been long extinct: sixty or seventy florins is now a fancy price for a bulb, but Haarlem still supplies all the gardens of Europe.

The German gardens do not rank high; generally there is a want of finish about them, though some of the Electors and feudal potentates not unsuccessfully imitated Versailles with its superb water works, and at Schönbrunn the grand alley, with its tall, closely-clipped tree hedges, is a striking feature in a beautiful scene. But in the great days of the gaming-tables MM. Blanc and Benazet were wise in their generation. Their landscape gardeners made the most of the environs of the Kursaals, and tourists who looked in en passant were tempted to linger and lose their money. Smiling innocence charmed the innocent visitor who rubbed shoulders with all the rascality of Europe. Who does not remember the rustic bridge over the brook at Wiesbaden, where the carp crowded to a perpetual feast of bread-crumbs? From the terraces of Homburg you looked over the gay parterres and the health springs to the hills of the Taunus and the vineyards of the Main. The Kursaal at Baden-Baden was embosomed in its hanging woods, where all the artful paths were leading to Rome, for all tended back towards the frescoed salons. And from the salons the seductive clink of gold mingled with the droning of the bees who were hovering over the scented beds, provided for them gratis by the generous administration. There were gardens of a sort at the inns on the Rhine, where you breakfasted and supped al fresco, looking down upon Byron's exulting and abounding river. There were gardens at hotels like the Bellevue of Dresden, where, in the picturesque Highlands beyond the Elbe, the eye wandered in the recesses of the Saxon Switzerland. But Germany is a country of fruits rather than flowers. Each secluded and insanitary hill village is intermingled and environed with orchards. On the Rhine, the Elbe and the Mosel, the vines climb each castled height and struggle successfully for a living on each scrap of cultivable soil. In France the high roads are bordered by poplars: but in the Rheintal from Bonn

to Coblenz, at the Königstuhl and in the Rheingau in the spring, you are continually walking under the shade of the cherry and apple blossoms. The Rhenish farmer resents any trampling of his meadow-land, as the angler knows to his cost; but for a groschen or two you might have your fill of his superabundant cherries and plums.

ALEXANDER INNES SHAND.

BRIDGE: THE REVOKE (*continued*).

THE one and only part which the dummy is allowed to take in the play of the hand is to prevent his partner from revoking by asking him whether he has none of a suit in which he may have renounced, and this is a duty which should never be neglected. When the dealer and his partner have to suffer the penalty for a revoke the dummy is quite as much to blame as the dealer himself; in fact far more so, if he has omitted to ask the usual question. The dealer is a very busy person, with a great deal to think about, during the time that he has the playing of twenty-six cards, and he may be pardoned if he makes an occasional slip; but the dummy has absolutely nothing to do or to think about except to safeguard his partner from this one danger.

Nearly all players are more prone to revoke when they are playing the two hands than when they are playing against the deal. The dealer is very likely thinking about what he shall discard from dummy, and when he has made up his mind what to discard he is apt to play a card of the same suit from his own hand instead of following to the suit led. That is how many revokes occur, and it should be the particular care of the dummy to guard against this error.

The dummy is strictly forbidden to call his partner's attention to the fact that one of the opponents has revoked. If he does so in any way, however roundabout, the right to exact the penalty is lost. Rather a curious case of this occurred some time ago, and was submitted to us for arbitration.

Hearts were trumps. One of the opponents, having only one heart in his hand, revoked on the first round of trumps, but followed suit to the second round. The dealer, who must have been a very inattentive player, did not notice the revoke, and the game proceeded as if nothing had happened. At the end of the hand the partner of the revoking player, who also appears not to have noticed the revoke, claimed 16 above the line for his partner's chicane. The dummy said "No, your partner was not chicane, he had one trump". "If that is the case", said the dealer, "he must have revoked", and the fact was admitted. The dealer then claimed to exact the penalty. Was he entitled to do so? The point was rather a peculiar one, because the dummy had not called attention to any incident in the play of the hand, but only to an error in the score, which he was perfectly entitled to correct. The dummy was quite within his rights, but, at the same time, the fact remained that the dealer had not noticed the revoke and would not have noticed it unless his attention had been called to it by his partner's remark. The only decision that could equitably be given was that, in the circumstances, the revoke could not be claimed.

A revoke is established when the revoking player or his partner has played to the next trick, or "when the trick is turned and quitted, i.e. the hand removed from that trick after it has been turned face downwards on the table". This definition is important. A trick is not held to be "quitted", so long as the player who has gathered it retains his hand on it or even one finger. Moreover, if the partner of the revoking player asks the usual question "Having none, partner?" before the trick is actually quitted, subsequent turning and quitting does not establish the revoke. The offender is allowed time to correct his error. If the error is discovered in time to save the revoke, the offender, if he is one of the dealer's adversaries, is subject to either of two penalties. The dealer may call upon him to play his highest or lowest card of the suit to that trick, or he may allow him to play as he likes and treat the card played in error as an exposed card. If the dealer elects the former penalty, the card played in error may be picked up again and cannot be called.

When the offending player is the dealer, the eldest hand may call upon him to play his highest or lowest of the suit led, provided that both adversaries have played to the trick. Very few players are aware of the existence of this rule (Law 95). It is a new rule, made when the laws were revised in 1904 to meet a particular case. Suppose that the dealer, being third hand, had ace and queen of the suit led, and knew that the fourth hand had one only, which might be the king, or might be a small one. What would be easier for him than to renounce in the suit, and so find out what the fourth player's one card was? It is an extreme case, and one that is very unlikely to occur, but it did occur once, and Law 95 was framed in consequence.

It is an unwritten law of bridge that it is unfair to revoke purposely, or, having revoked once, to do so a second time in the hope of covering up and concealing the first offence. The penalty for a revoke is cumulative, and can be exacted as many times as the revoke occurs; but in the best clubs it is not customary to exact it more than once, provided that once is sufficient to score the game. It has occasionally happened, owing to two cards being stuck together, that a player has revoked three or four times in a No Trump game. In such a case the usual custom is to exact one penalty only, not to rub it in unnecessarily by exacting the utmost penalty that the law allows.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHRISTIANITY IN FRANCE.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Harrogate, 29 January.

SIR,—Your number of January 19 has only now reached me. The concluding paragraph strikes me forcibly. Some week or two earlier I had written to our Bishop to the same effect, saying that, as a member of Conference, I should not have troubled him if Conference were about to meet, which it is not. He replied that he had, in the "Diocesan Magazine", recommended the matter to the prayers of the Faithful, and that, in view of the existing confusion in France, he did not think any further step could be taken with wisdom. I regret to have to differ from my Diocesan. I feel very strongly that we have here a grand chance of promoting "unity of spirit and the bond of peace". If the clergy fear to arouse "anti-Papal prejudice", I think the laity may do without them. I see no better way of promoting this view than by applying to your sympathy. My own voice would not be heard. Can you do anything? I am, Sir, yours &c.

H. P.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

74 Grosvenor Road, Highbury, N.,

28 January, 1907.

SIR,—Were it not for a soaring metaphor of M. Viviani's, were it not for something that M. Clémenceau said ten or fifteen years ago, were it not for varying hues of orthodox religion that colour certain Roman Catholic newspaper correspondents, were it not for prophecies of dreadful things of such imminence that it is already possible to speak of some of them as having been falsified by events, one would never guess, from your correspondence columns, that a mighty struggle is going on in France, a struggle that dates not from yesterday, nor from the Concordat of Napoleon, nor from the Revolution and the Civil Constitution of the Clergy, nor from the Concordat of Francis I., nor from the Pragmatic of Bourges, but, in its earliest form, from the birth of the first schismatic sect which began the destruction of the unity of the Church, a process that, acquiring strength as it progressed through the ages in spite of every effort to crush it—with what crimes history records—culminated, nearly five centuries after the separation of the Greek Church, in the Reformation and in the release of England once and for all from Papal domination and control.

In France the result was different. The State was still the slave of religious fanaticism, and, ten years before the odious Massacre of St. Bartholomew, began the series of religious wars which deluged France with blood for thirty-six years, from the massacre of Vassy in 1562 until the Edict of Nantes in 1598.

Nearly one hundred years elapse, and Louis XIV. revokes the Edict of Nantes. Another century runs its course, and the mighty Revolution, in bringing forth a new birth, upheaves a Napoleon, who, for motives with which religion has nothing whatever to do, concludes with Pius VII. a Concordat which it has taken France another one hundred years to get rid of.

How long it will take her to emancipate herself, as England has done, from Papal authority, remains to be seen, but—let there be no mistake about it—that is the meaning of the policy of the French Government, who are acting in the name of the great majority of the French nation.

The question of the spread of religious indifference in France is beside the mark. That it is spreading, not only in France, but in England as well, and rapidly in both countries, is beyond doubt; but that is the result of the operation of forces which no Government, however strong, can check or control, and over which it is not within the province of any Government to seek to exercise coercion in any form.

It is idle to speculate how far the final struggle with Clericalism would have been delayed or its character mollified had the policy of Leo XIII. been followed by his successor, or had the Church confined itself within the limits of the spiritual domain which it claims as peculiarly its own.

France knows where the danger for her lies, if foreigners do not, and she will no more be diverted by outside criticism, often uninstructed and officious, from the course which the protection and the safety of the Republican régime imperatively demand, than we allowed ourselves to be influenced, by the almost unanimous disapproval of Europe, in the prosecution of the Boer war, in which a sound political instinct told us that immense imperial interests were at stake, far beyond the limits of the Transvaal Republic and the Orange Free State.

The part that Clericalism has played in France during the life of the Third Republic, as the ally of political Catholicism, is the all-sufficient explanation of the measures adopted by successive Governments for bringing the Church under the control of the civil power. It is not the first blow that has been aimed at the supremacy of Rome. It is but another battle in an age-long war of which we who are alive to-day cannot foresee the end.

It is matter for sincere regret that the practical application of the Separation policy will doubtless be accompanied by painful shocks to the feelings and susceptibilities of numbers of patriotic men and women whose religious convictions are inseparable from the externalities with which those convictions have come to be identified, and for which they retain a traditional love and reverence.

But was ever reform or change effected without that sad and saddening necessity?

The qualified barbarism which marks our present stage of development towards civilisation has not been attained without the breaking of bones and the shedding of blood; but the faithful of to-day can at least congratulate themselves, if they value their liberty and their lives, that times have changed and that the views of the majority, however different from theirs, will not be enforced by any of the blood-stained crimes which redden the pages of Christian history.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
D. N. SAMSON.

BLACKS AND THE SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Brighton, 30 January, 1907.

SIR,—In anticipation of the decision of the Federal Court in California as to the co-education of the white and Japanese children in the public schools, it is of interest to see how a policy of segregation has worked

in the Southern States. The dual system there is no longer an experiment, for it has now stood the test of forty years' operation. The school system of every southern county is governed by a board of white trustees, but there is in every county one set of white teachers and pupils, and another of negro. For some years after the war many white teachers were found in the black schools, owing to the insufficient facilities for the preparation of the required number of negro teachers, but that is no longer so; there are now in the South numerous private and public normal schools for the blacks; some of the States, indeed, have as many as three public institutions of this character. The National Census of 1900 showed that there were at that time as many as 4,565 male and female students in the private normal colleges alone. The black teachers enjoy as many opportunities for professional improvement as the white; each of the great normal colleges holds a summer session of several weeks for their benefit, embracing all the branches taught in the public schools; and there are also district institutes during the vacation, supported by special appropriations from the State treasuries. As a body, the negro teachers form the most intelligent section of their race. One explanation of the marked decline in the efficiency of negro labour in the Southern States is to be attributed to the fact that the most competent negroes are drawn away to the public schools. Under the slavery system these men would have become the skilful mechanics, the foremen of the gangs, the leaders in performing the tasks of the fields.

It has been suggested by a few Southern public men of extreme opinions that the fund for the education of the negroes should be restricted to the amount of taxes which they pay, but the proposition has been steadily rejected by the popular voice. There is a general feeling that it is the State's duty to afford the blacks the same opportunities under the public-school system as those enjoyed by the whites. The South, during the last twenty-five or thirty years, has expended not less than £25,000,000 in support of negro public schools, an enormous sum for a people who, by the civil war, lost three pounds sterling of every four which they had previously possessed. Of this sum, which represented the blood and sweat of an impoverished people, but a small share was obtained by the taxation of the negroes. For instance, in South Carolina, where the whites form less than one-half of the whole population, they pay four-fifths of the school tax, about £200,000 altogether. The negroes, who pay only one-fifth, outnumbering as they do the whites two to one, obtain more than one-half of the school fund. Were the whites to discriminate in favour of their own schools, the terms of these schools might be greatly extended, to the incalculable advantage of the white pupils; but no discrimination is allowed, although it is in South Carolina that the white people have most reason to detest the black. In North Carolina the whites pay five-sixths of the school tax, in spite of the fact that the black population is equal to about one-third of the white in number; nevertheless, the school fund is distributed pro rata; and the same rule is followed in all the other Southern States, although the like inequality is universal. The facilities for the education of the blacks and whites in the public schools are essentially the same for each; whatever differences exist, such as a possible superiority in some of the school-houses for the white children, and the smaller number of children on the average taught by the white teacher in some of the States, do not put the negroes at a special disadvantage.

To what extent are the negroes making use of the public-school system? The most trustworthy statistics are those of the United States census. In 1900, of the 2,861,690 negro children found in the South, only 910,611 attended the public schools daily; that is to say, only one of every three was seeking to acquire a rudimentary education. The proportion for the white children was one of every two. The smaller attendance of the black was due partly to the greater indifference and partly to the greater poverty of the race. The studies pursued in the rural schools for the negroes—and the great mass of that people reside in the country—are of the simplest sort—i.e. reading, writing and

arithmetic. After leaving these rural schools, few negroes ever see again a book or paper, and therefore what they have learned, a smattering at best, soon grows dim in their minds. In all the Southern cities, there are found high schools for the race, which cover a wider course and impart a more thorough training. There are also numerous institutions in which collegiate instruction is given. In 1900, there were in attendance on the latter 1,550 male pupils and 421 female, a total of 1,971 negroes, in a population of 9,000,000, acquiring a higher education under the most advanced system.

PHILIP ALEXANDER BRUCE.

THE PORT OF LONDON.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

London and India Docks Company,
Dock House, 109 Leadenhall Street,
London, E.C., 30 January, 1907.

SIR,—In your note on the Port question you ask why I consider that the new dock cannot be completed till 1915 if the Government postpone legislation until next year. My reason is this. The Government Bill could not receive the Royal Assent before, say, July or August 1908. If the precedent of the Water Board is followed (and I think it must) the new body cannot get the question of compensation to dock proprietors settled and come into office before 1 January, 1910. They would then naturally wish to consider the question of dock extension for themselves, and I am sure that this would mean that the dock itself would not be begun for twelve months after the new body came into office. This brings us to 1 January, 1911, and, allowing four years for the dock to be made, we arrive at 1 January, 1915.

On the other hand, if the Company's Bill is passed this year the new dock could be commenced in August next, which would allow of its being opened by August 1911.

Would you let me add that the Company's Bill in no way interferes with the project for the formation of a new Port authority; it rather aids it by practically fixing a maximum price for the dock undertakings, whilst it would save (to adopt your own words) the serious confusion and loss which will undoubtedly occur if the new dock is not completed before 1915.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
CHAS. J. C. SCOTT, Chairman.

THE MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Wick Court, near Bristol, 24 January, 1907.

SIR,—I have received a letter, a public letter to Trinity men, containing the following paragraph:

"No one cares to spend a year of study to be dishonoured for life with a second or third class or any class in Part II. of the Math. Tripos except Class I. Division I."

If the object of the present Tripos is to give opportunity to twenty or thirty men to gain personal honour it is no more than a vulgar speculation and an evil thing for the community at large. It should be abolished at once. Trinity is an honourable institution if it train men to work for knowledge and for their fellows: it is a scandal to civilisation if it train men to work for personal honour.

Your obedient servant,
F. C. CONSTABLE.

THE UNEMPLOYED SEASON.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

Bickleigh Lodge, Shootup Hill, N.W.

SIR,—Mr. W. Carlile says that Canada should be peopled by our own kinsfolk rather than by the off-scourings of Europe. So should England, and hence the emigration in 1906 of 325,036 native British should be

enough to satisfy any one that does not consider we are under a moral obligation to make room for the swarms of paupers, coolies, criminals, Anarchists, harpies, and deserters who come here. Let Mr. Carlile ship the aliens out of England. Englishmen have more right here than they.

JOSEPH BANISTER.

THE SWISS MODEL.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

SIR,—In your issue of the 26th inst. I noticed a letter from Colonel Hime on the "Swiss Model". In that letter occurs the following sentence: "If the Swiss Army be, as we have been recently assured, a herd of amiable sharpshooters, with little or no discipline, the only invasion they could repel with reasonable chance of success is the annual invasion of visitors to their delightful country". I should be much obliged if you would allow me the space for a few lines of comment on this point. I had the pleasure, last September, of following on foot the Swiss Army Corps Manœuvres. I was allowed to see the troops closely and almost to march in the ranks, and, as an old soldier, I was much impressed with the admirable discipline maintained throughout. The manner of officers to officers, of officers to men and vice versa was invariably as good as it could be—short, sharp and decisive while on duty; courteous and friendly off duty—orders were carried out without the least grumbling or hesitation. In short, the discipline was similar to that which Colonel Hime himself saw in the mountain batteries in which I had the honour to serve twenty years ago under Colonel Hime's own command.

Trusting that my old friend and commanding officer will take my word for the discipline of the Swiss Army, I sign myself with the phrase he himself invented,

A MERRY SWISS, A MOUNTAINEER.

THE QUEEN OF GIRLS' BOOK MAKERS.

To the Editor of the SATURDAY REVIEW.

The High School for Girls,
70 Thurlow Park Road, West Dulwich, S.E.,
29 January, 1907.

SIR,—With reference to the Editorial Note on the schoolgirls' letter which appears in the correspondence column of the SATURDAY REVIEW for 19 January, we should like to enumerate some of the books read in the different forms in the Dulwich High School during the past year. These are More's "Utopia", the "Adonais", Burke's "Present Discontents", the "Tempest", "Hamlet", "The Merchant of Venice", "Henry V.", the "Idylls of the King", "Sesame and Lilies", "Faery Queene" Book I., "Paradise Lost", Book I., Wordsworth's poems (selections), "Sohrab and Rustum", "The Ancient Mariner", "Evangeline", the "Heroes", "Ivanhoe". The last three works are typical of the reading provided for the Lower Third Form to which six of the children who signed the letter belong.

Wider reading of a classical nature is provided by a voluntary Reading Society which meets during the winter, and has a large number of members.

We beg to remain yours truly,

F. B. LOW, E. R. COLMAN,
Teachers of Literature at the Dulwich High School.

[Good. We must modify our inference. Plainly the Dulwich High School for Girls does "try to set a tolerably high standard of reading". We are glad to find it so. But the proof? Girls who read at school *Ivanhoe* and the *Heroes* (*Evangeline* very likely is compatible with L. T. Meade) prefer "*Turquoise* and *Ruby*". Does this look as though their teaching had as much effect as one might hope on these children's taste in reading?—ED. S.R.]

REVIEWS.

THE PORTRAIT OF HIMSELF.

"The Upton Letters." By Arthur Christopher Benson.
Second Edition. London: Smith, Elder. 1906. 7s. 6d.
net.

"The House of Quiet." By Arthur Christopher Benson.
Second Edition. London: Murray. 1906. 8s. net.

WE overlooked the Upton letters when they first appeared. This has given us the advantage of reading them only as Mr. Benson's acknowledged work; also the "House of Quiet". There has been a good deal of very foolish talk about Mr. Benson's habit of publishing books anonymously and afterwards acknowledging their authorship. It is surely Mr. Benson's business, and no one's else, whether he shall acknowledge what he writes at once, or later, or not at all. To suggest that he withholds his name at first in the deliberate hope of mystifying is absurd. As he points out in a preface, he stands to lose and not to gain by anonymity. He has his reasons for doing what he does, and it is no concern of ours, nor of any Review, to consider whether they are good reasons or bad. We are glad we did not read these books before their authorship was acknowledged, because it enables us to say with precision that which would have been more or less in the air if spoken of a nameless writer, however easily identified. There is the necessary objection to all anonymous books, applying no more to Mr. Benson than to any one else, that they put readers and reviewers in the unfair position of judging one in the company present without knowing that he is present. It may be the best way to hear the truth about yourself, to get people to discuss you without knowing it is you they are discussing; but it is taking a doubtful advantage. If at dinner Mr. Benson's neighbour, not knowing to whom he was talking, began to discuss with him Mr. Arthur Christopher Benson's writings, Mr. Benson would feel that honour compelled him either at once to say who he was or forcibly to change the subject. Yet a reader of the Upton letters, for instance, might with great frankness express to Mr. Benson his liking or dislike of T. B. who writes the letters, which would just be nakedly exposing his whole view of Mr. Benson himself: for it is quite impossible to discuss the book impersonally; the personality of the writer is everything: it is the book and the book is nothing else. "Herbert" is not and never was; but T. B. is Mr. Arthur Benson. We cannot be put off by any disclaimer of intention to express himself or even by T. B.'s assertion of opinions and views abhorrent from Mr. Benson's own. Particular opinions are a very small matter, but read through these two books carefully and you know one person well; that is the whole impression the books leave, and Mr. Benson is not quite creative artist enough to be able to invent the real living man that fills the Upton letters and the "House of Quiet". His is quite the opposite gift—the gift of expressing himself. He has done this with singular vividness, truth, and courage. That is why these two books are so interesting—more especially the Upton letters, a more mature work of much greater power. Mr. Benson has of course written innumerable other books on similar lines, but these two sum them up.

Mr. Benson must not protest that he had no intention of presenting the world with a portrait of himself. It is of no account whether he had the intention or not—he has done it, and succeeded in a very difficult task. How few of us are true to ourselves in our letters—usually they leave an impression of quite another person. We are inclined to believe that Mr. Benson did not intend to do this, for if he had deliberately set to work to put himself into words, we very much doubt if he would have succeeded. In other words, in these books he has grown; he is not made; and that is how we come to have a man in them, and not a wax-work, whether model or guy. It would be unkind indeed to both these books to tear out the portrait of Mr. Benson, for what was left would not justify their existence.

At first, we will admit frankly, we were half inclined

to resent the Upton letters. Why should we have to read a miscellany of views—or scraps of views—on everything and anything? Conversation no doubt is nothing better than this; usually it is not so good; but it is conversation. Fleeting matter in the most fleeting of all forms is no matter. But "boards and cloth" imply something more than an hour or a day, or there should be no boards and cloth. To be told on one page that Newman had not the spirit of Christ, on another that Meredith has no repose, or that French should be the "linguistic staple of education"—well, it was rather irritating to find oneself giving time to these obiter dicta on everything, when one thought of the innumerable great books one had not read, of the worlds of knowledge one knows nothing of, the things to see one had never seen. It seemed rather a large order to ask one to stop to take in these scraps of a ruminant, pasted in a book between tea and dinner time. But reading on, one began to feel these fragments fall into place. They no longer challenged attention for themselves; they became traits of a mind which surely grew upon you. In conversation with an exceptional man we invariably find ourselves, in no very long time, more interested in the man than in what he says. In fact, it is the man or the woman, not the words or the sentiments, that makes conversation interesting. Many talk sensibly enough, conversation with whom is a thing to pray to be delivered from.

And so with the Upton letters. Slightly resentful at first, then captious, before we had reached the half-way letter we were absorbed in their attraction. And everyone must be who is capable of the companionship of a man like Mr. Arthur Benson. If he is not, there is an end of the matter. He had better leave the book alone. The loss will be his.

Naturally there are numerous opinions thrown out which we should discuss with Mr. Benson with much pleasure; but it would be in derogation of, if not actually false to, our view of these books. And the really interesting theme of all, the character the book discloses, we obviously cannot discuss. One or two sentiments, however, especially appealed to us; and one dissension we must make for fear of being misunderstood. Both in the "House of Quiet" and the Upton letters no opportunity is missed to rail at classical education. We wish only to say that nothing in any of these passages causes us any misgivings as to the absolute superiority of classics to any other medium of education for the great majority of boys. Nor do we doubt that, after fair trial, experience would in due time justify this saying of girls too. But the Upton letters are not an occasion for the serious discussion of this very serious question. The recurring thoughts about ambition are good. They ring true and we are sure they point the right way. Ambition may be excused; it cannot rightly be praised. It is a poor motive for action; the Christian can scarcely harbour it at all with consistency. To play his part well is his business, not to choose it: he can leave that to the Divine Manager. The slave of ambition is about as low down as the worshipper of success. And we like Mr. Benson's sympathy with Shakespeare's leaving tragedy and comedy for ordinary active life. Life is so much more than literature. And one feels with him when he says he can write better in term time, in the midst of routine activity, than in the large leisure of a holiday. This is one of the things that are but hadn't ought to be. Why is it so difficult to do anything in a holiday, when everything seems so favourable? Probably Mr. Benson is right; the mind is not in training. One touch is missing throughout these books: there is not a suggestion of the naturalist: it is a pity: but Mr. Benson is not a naturalist: so it could not be helped.

Well, we honestly thank him for painting his portrait so well. It is good work no less than a good likeness. The touch is firm and easy; the treatment broad and yet very delicate. There are a few patches of prettiness which should be painted out; but they do not much mar the effect of the whole. We cannot close without earnestly asking Mr. Benson not to paint any replicas. It is done: let it be once for all. More studies on these lines will be a mistake. If he likes to fill up the time between tea and dinner in making them for his own

pleasure, very well. He will hardly be making the most of himself or of his time; but if he refrains from publishing them, perhaps no one has a right to say anything. We feel that Mr. Benson might well reserve himself for greater things. Let him think out one or two of the myriad subjects on which he has given the world his reflections, always interesting, but only reflections. We assure him we are but expressing the feelings of a multitude of his friends.

REFLECTIONS ON THREE "ART BOOKS".

"A little at a time—and that done well."

"The Education of an Artist." By Lewis Hind. London: Black. 1906. 7s. 6d. net.

"The Art of the Greeks." By H. B. Walters. London: Methuen. 1906. 12s. 6d. net.

"Botticelli." Par Charles Diehl. Paris: Librairie de l'Art Ancien et Modern. 1906.

OF these three there is no doubt which will be the most popular with the general public. By that public Mr. Hind's method—a blend of art-criticism and fiction—is well known and liked, though when in a recent book on Rembrandt he was reduced to inventing a young man lecturing on the subject at a Dorcas Society as a seductive bypath by which we might be led to the study of the master's art, there were those among us who sniffed. One Claude Williamson Shaw occupies in the present work the place of that Dorcas Society entertainer, and, if we pardon his intrusion more easily in a book professing to concern itself with the education of an artist, forgiveness is won by our conviction that there is a close connexion between Mr. Shaw and Mr. Hind, that it is in fact Mr. Hind's artistic education that we are being told about, in which after all he may be pardoned for feeling a special interest. Mr. Hind would seem to have talked with a Cornish landscape-painter, to have "done" Italy through the medium of Messrs. Cook and Baedeker, to have—possibly, but not necessarily—spent a month or so in a Parisian atelier. Well, as an education for an artist it is meagre, but perhaps there are art-critics that have not done even that much.

In how different strains are recounted the phases of his apprenticeship. The continental tour is a very Pæan of the Personally Conducted—so evidently a record of pleasure that the reader is infected by the holiday feeling. Clearly Mr. Shaw-Hind enjoyed himself tremendously. Just as clearly and admittedly the Paris atelier was drudgery from beginning to end. He was interested in the place and its picturesqueness—he was not interested in the drawing, which is as much as to say that he never really did any drawing at all. In this record of the education of an artist is no word of the joys of study, of the tête-à-tête between the painter and his canvas, of the thrill of illumination as art yields its secrets before an insistent inquirer probing the possibilities of a material. Perpetually rhapsodising on the pinnacles of the temple of art Mr. Hind has little zest for or insight into those humbler foundations of rudimentary science and skill that underlie all fine performance, and this gives to his enthusiasm an air of unreality.

And yet, though in less degree, how many artists are there of the present day who are in somewhat the same false position and of whom Mr. Shaw is a true if exaggerated portrait. Before them as before Mr. Shaw has defiled the panorama of all that the greatest artists of the past have left to us, an achievement too complex to be digested on such slight and second-hand experience, only indeed to be completely understood by a method of study not only more practical but more gradual. For of the men to-day who are supposed to be practical artists a large proportion never get in touch with their material because they try to acquire ready-made an art so complex that it leaves them puzzled, not knowing where to begin. Ideas, methods, possibilities, are offered to them in such profusion that they cannot be assimilated and the lesson of the present generation of artists is this—that it is not the overfed mind that breeds athletic vigour.

Mr. Walters in his learned tone deals with the race

who by their natural success in almost every possible form of art may point the reason of our own failure. In the first place the Greeks seem to have been temperamentally inclined to utilising fully the resources they were accustomed to, rather than to casting about for innovations. In their conservatism, as Mr. Walters calls it, they preferred always beauty to originality; but apart from this they seem to have been forced by circumstances to build their art anew in independent fashion, to have been free in large part from our own temptation to annex one ready-made. The wonderful discoveries of the products of Mycenaean civilisation show of course that archaic Greek work was preceded by a period of much more advanced and complex art (such work as that of the famous Vaphio cups for example is surely rather gracefully decadent than primitive), and Mr. Walters has a very interesting chapter on "The beginnings of Greek art", which discusses to what extent the break of continuity which divided this more sophisticated art from the simpler work that followed was a complete one.

"The remarkable upheaval which tended to submerge this Mycenaean or Achæan power, forcing on Greece the necessity of learning anew the alphabet of her art, is generally held to be coincident with the Dorian invasion—these Dorians originally came from the plains of central Europe, whence they crossed the Balkans and settled first in the mountain fastnesses of central Greece—a rude uncultured race, as the history of their Spartan descendants shows, they brought with them a simple and elementary form of art which made its influence felt in the pottery of several succeeding centuries. The dispersion of the Mycenaean culture in Greece seems to have been complete, and only scattered traces remained to influence here and there the art of the new race." This is modified later by admitting the lingering in the islands of the Mycenaean tradition, but throughout it would appear that the purely Greek art was healthily limited in its borrowings, partly by want of matured art to borrow from, partly by the tendency fostered by religion to adhere to traditional types. What we wish to suggest (more directly than is suggested by Mr. Walters, who in true archaeological fashion refrains from rash deductions) is this—that the "style" which we recognise usually in classic art and rarely in modern is but the outward mark of this orderly and logical development of men content to perfect a simple process before consenting to complicate it with another. Perfection belongs to the work that has grown up without confusion from the beginning.

Thus we find Greek sculpture long occupied at the outset with the harmonious, if primitive, hewing-of-the-simple-block, and that he was regarded as an innovator who first "opened the eyelids so that they appeared to see and separated the legs so that they seemed to walk, and had to be chained up to prevent their running away". We find it content for other long years to exploit to the uttermost certain simple qualities of structure common to the two sexes before there arose a sculptor who "distinguished between male and female". These are traditions which point to a long period of isolated craftsmanship healthily self-absorbed and self-sufficient, and study of later work shows a like gradual development in which men did not presume to vary on the works of their fathers till they had mastered the principles by which those works were produced. "They learned their art from their predecessors", says the inscription on the base of a statue at Argos, nor were they possessed by the unseemly haste of scrambling on to the shoulders of those predecessors that makes the modern man so often expect to begin where his father left off. They had that sound Oriental imitativeness that is so wise in its acceptance of Nature's device for making almost the same act a fresh discovery for each generation, yet each time won a little more quickly.

We have sometimes thought, that as the life of the individual is a résumé of the life of the race, we might reasonably, instead of putting the young painter to paint from life with all the resources of a fully developed modern technique, set him to follow somewhat the course of the evolution of that art from its beginnings. Like the vase-painters from which

painting was developed he might first apply himself to designing dark figures on a light ground and realise practically what possibilities of dignity and grace are in this simple form of design and what fine training it affords to hand and eye. He might be encouraged so to lose himself in this study that it would come to him quite as a "bold and ingenious invention" to paint instead light figures on a dark ground or, as was rather the practice of the Greeks, a dark background round light figures. We should then see him anatomising, detailing these light figures with inner lines of darker half-tone (in the manner of the fine figures reproduced opposite p. 149 in Mr. Walters' book), and this would gradually lead to the art of modelling a figure just as the use of "counter-changed" light and dark silhouettes would lead up to Nature's device of relieving by light and shade figures in different planes of the picture. Only when his technique had thus led him to designing groups in more than one plane would the need arise of a system of perspective to explain them, and like the ancient Greeks he would only reluctantly consent to use more than the "four colours" tradition prescribed for painting when the growing complexity of his art forced him to do so.

On some such lines we cannot but fancy must Greek painting have been built up, nor was ancient criticism blind to the fact that in each advance was involved some slight loss of the "purity" of the earlier style. We do not know how far the process of elaboration was carried before men began to neglect its earlier stages and felt the ground in consequence less firm beneath their feet, but we may shrewdly suspect that here was the reason why the wave of inspiration spent itself before painting, the most complex of the arts, was fully matured.

Our readers may stigmatise as academic our suggestion for the training of youth on such lines, even should they admit that these were probably the lines on which classic art developed: even if the Greeks approached painting so, it may be argued, they did it unconsciously. Now this may indeed be true though we cannot be sure of it. What is certain is that when in the fulness of time the next great wave of artistic inspiration passed over the world and that same incomplete art of painting was carried a step farther than the Greeks carried it, conscious self-direction was for a very great deal in the success achieved. The most illuminating criticisms of Botticelli's pictures are those written by Alberti before they were painted, and some of the most interesting pages of M. Diehl's excellent book are those in which he does justice to the inspirer of the great Florentine. Perhaps each wave of artistic activity that passes over the world is more clairvoyant than the last, sees the earlier stages of development in the truer perspective that comes of distance. It is at least an encouraging thought that perhaps the apparently purposeless accumulation of mere information concerning the arts of the past is but a gathering of material against the day when a new Alberti shall arise to expound its meaning to the next generation. Then from the ashes shall be kindled again the sacred fire.

Of the books that have provoked these remarks Mr. Walters' contains a mass of information intelligently grouped but not commented on. One has no clue as to what held him up during the writing of it. The Botticelli book lies midway between this and Mr. Hind's popularism, being well informed but written with a definite point of view which colours his narrative. It is the type of essay that Frenchmen seem to do well by nature. Mr. Hind overflows with the Gallic exuberance of the *midis*, and suggests that among his other activities Tartarin dabbled also in art criticism.

MUSA SALOPIENSIS.

"Translations into Latin and Greek Verse." By H. A. J. Munro. London: Arnold. 1906. 6s. net.

THIS is indeed a welcome reissue. The book had become a rarity, and even second-hand copies were expensive and hard to come by. Those of us who remember Munro's versions in "*Sabrinæ Corolla*" and "*Folia Silvulæ*" and the Pitt Press translation of

Gray's "*Elegy*", will be deeply grateful for an opportunity to read, and of course to purchase, this volume, while those to whom it is a novelty will welcome it with delight. The book is not a mere reissue either, for, in addition to some slight corrections, we have two hitherto unpublished pieces, one from Scott, and the other a rendering of the dirge in "*Cymbeline*".

One naturally turns first to the "*Elegy*". It has been asserted that the better medium for this poem would have been the Lucretian hexameter, of which Munro was a master, and indeed there is a good deal of Lucretius in the "*Elegy*". But we should then have lost that triumph over artificial obstacles for which the pentameter gives such opportunities, even though Munro's pentameters have not, and were not intended to have, the smooth perfection of Ovid, but are modelled rather on the lines of the older Roman elegists. In this connexion one cannot refrain from quoting from the scholarly and well-turned criticism of Canon Evans, of Durham, given in the preface, wherein, after pointing out how Gray would have appreciated Munro's "*Elegy*", he goes on—

"At per vestigia vatis
Pæligni minus isse reor te, maxime Munro,
Quam signasse novum sermonem, dum tibi Musam
Nasonis numerosque repræsentare videris;"

and later on he styles Munro a Roman Æschylus, whose verses are

"Similes solido structis adamante columnis."

It was probably this quality of massiveness which led one critic to describe Munro's work as "*Vitruvian*". Here are a few extracts from the "*Elegy*". The reader will inevitably turn to the "*Village Hampden*".

"Forsitan hic, olim intrepido qui pectore ruris
Restiterat parvo Gracculus agrestis ero,
Vel mutus sine honore Maro, vel Iulius alter,
Immunis patrii sanguinis ille, cubet."

Here "*parvus*" has not the atmosphere of "*little*", which recalls the "*man, proud man, drest in a little brief authority*" of Shakespeare, and "*tyrannus*", with its flavour of oppression, might possibly be substituted for the more colourless "*erus*".

"Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife"—

"Insana procul urbe, fori certamine fœdo,
Sobrius et voti compos in orbe suo,
Qua seclusa tulit tranquillæ semita vitæ,
Non observatum quisque tenebat iter."

Here "*the cool sequestered vale of life*" is Gray's expansion of Lucretius, and it reappears in the Lucretian form very slightly altered. Perhaps Munro's famous dislike of using tags made him prefer the "*tranquillæ*" of Lucretius to the more striking and familiar "*fallentis*" of Horace.

"This pleasing anxious being" appears as "*dulce tormentum hanc animam*",
"The swallow twittering from the straw-built shed,"

"Ut crepet e tuguri stramine mater Ityn,"

and here is the passage which is the centre of an amusing controversy related in the preface. Munro rendered "*The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power*", &c., as follows—

"Picta patrum series clarive insignia regni
Quidquid habent, facies quidquid opesve ferunt,
Cuncta manet pariter non exorabilis hora,
Metaque mors, quoquo gloria flectit iter."

Mr. Duff tells us that a reviewer in "*Macmillan*", in criticising this, quoted as superior a rendering by Gilbert Wakefield of "*The paths of glory lead but to the grave*"—

"In tumuli fauces ducit honoris iter".

Munro, always of Polonius' opinion as regards quarrelling, pointed out that this could only mean—"The path of a public office leads to the gorge of a hillock".

It is quite impossible to quote all one's favourites, but we cannot pass unnoticed the triumphant success of the Song of Deborah in the glyconics of Catullus'

(Continued on page 148.)

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Vosque perpetuæ fores,
Rex ut ingrediatur huc
Inclutissimus unus."

Peculiarly interesting are the cases where, as with the opening lines of Lucretius, he translates from one dead language to the other, or where, as with the "Hamlet" soliloquy, he gives both a Latin and Greek version.

"who would fardels bear &c."

ἀραιὴν ἂν ἄχθη πολυπόνου ζωῆς ὑπο
γυζὼν ἰδρῶν τις; ἀλλὰ γὰρ φόβῳ τινὸς
ἔπιθε θανάτου, γῆς ἀνευρέτου τ', ἀφ' ἧς
ὄρων οὐδὲν οὔτις αὐτὴν κατέρχεται,
γνώμην ἀμνηστούμεν, ὥστ' ἀντλεῖν τὰ νῦν
μᾶλλον κακὸν ἢ νῦν ἐσπίττειν ἀγνωστὰ τε.

Somewhat "Vitruvian" perhaps, but very forcible: though τινὸς ὄπιθε θανάτου is literal to baldness. The Latin runs thus in right Lucretian vein:—

"Quis grave onus fessæ vitæ pertoleraret
Cum grunnitibus ac multis sudoribus ægris,
Ni metus ille, aliquid nobis ne in morte ferat fors,
Inque reperta loci ratio, a cuius fine viator
Nemo usquam remigrat, perculsum distraheret cor?
Ergo damna pati præsentia malumus ista
Quam nobis nova perfugium atque incognita habere."

"The severity of his method leads at times to a certain baldness", as Mr. Duff admits. But the power and fidelity and versatility of his renderings are beyond all praise.

We must thank Mr. Duff for his chatty preface, which shows us the inner Munro in most interesting guise. One hopes that Shrewsbury will continue to send forth those who, in reckless defiance of a utilitarian age, will carry on the traditions of Kennedy, Munro, and others, "quos nunc perscribere longum est", and will still produce Latin and Greek poetry, even though they may "get no marks" for it.

For this Week's Books see page 150.

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Lady Nugent's Journal: Jamaica One Hundred Years Ago (Edited by Frank Cundall). Black. 5s. net.
Emma, Lady Hamilton (Walter Sichel. Third Edition). Constable. 7s. 6d. net.
The Earlier Adventures of a Naval Officer (Sir Spenser St. John). Digby, Long. 6s.

FICTION

World without End (Winifred Graham). Rivers. 6s.
The Flare of the Footlights (Horace Wyndham). Grant Richards. 6s.
The Lost Word (Evelyn Underhill). Heinemann. 6s.
In Slippery Places (H. Maxwell); A Fair Widow. Digby, Long. 6s. each.
The Lonely Lady of Grosvenor Square (Mrs. Henry de la Pasture). Murray. 6s.
The Fighting Chance (Robert W. Chambers). Constable. 6s.
The Yoke (Hubert Wales); The Folly of the Wise (G. Sidney Paternoster). Long. 6s.
Love in the Harbour (Charles G. Harper). Chapman and Hall. 6s.
Living Lies (Esther Miller); The Kinsman (Mrs. Sidgwick). Methuen. 6s. each.
Kit's Woman: A Cornish Idyll (Mrs. Havelock Ellis). Rivers. 3s. 6d.
Kate Bannister (Keighley Snowden); Her Highness's Secretary (Carlton Dawe). Nash. 6s. each.
The Barony of Brendon (E. H. Lacon Watson). Brown, Langham. 6s.
The Pointing Finger ("Rita"). Nash. 6s.
My Lady Nan (Bessie Dill). Hurst and Blackett. 6s.

HISTORY

Hertfordshire Families (Edited by Duncan Warrand); "The Victoria History of the Counties of England":—Cornwall (Vol. I. Edited by William Page); Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (Vols. I. and II.); Essex (Vols. I. and II.). Constable.
Historie de l'Emigration pendant la Révolution Française (III.: Du Dix-huit Brumaire à la Restauration. Par Ernest Daudet). Paris: Hachette. 7 fr. 50.

SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY

Structure and Growth of the Mind (W. Mitchell). 10s. net; An Introduction to Philosophy (George Stuart Fullerton). 7s. net. Macmillan.
Electrons, or the Nature and Properties of Negative Electricity (Sir Oliver Lodge). Bell. 6s. net.

THEOLOGY

The Convocation Prayer Book, with Altered Rubrics Murray. 5s. net.
The Bible Doctrine of Atonement (H. C. Beeching and Alexander Nairne). Murray. 2s. 6d. net.

TRAVEL

The Natives of British Central Africa (A. Werner). Constable. 6s. net.
Sketches of Life in Morocco (Kathleen Mansel Pleydell). Digby, Long. 6s.
Indiscreet Letters from Peking (Edited by B. L. Putnam Weale). Hurst and Blackett. 7s. 6d. net.
The Pocket Guide to the West Indies (Algernon E. Aspinall). Stanford. 6s.
Dampier's Voyages (Captain William Dampier. Edited by John Masefield, Vol. II.). Grant Richards. Two vols., 25s. net.

MISCELLANEOUS

America, Industrial (J. Laurence Laughlin). Hodder and Stoughton. 7s. 6d.
American Scene, The (Henry James). Chapman and Hall. 12s. 6d. net.
Empire, The Life of an (Walter Meakin). Unwin. 6s. net.
India, New: or India in Transition (Sir Henry Cotton. Revised and Enlarged). Kegan Paul. 3s. 6d. net.
Insurance Blue-Book and Guide for 1906-7. Dawbarn and Ward. 2s. net.
Labour Movement, The, in Australasia (V. S. Clark). Constable. 6s. net.
Navy in 1907, The State of the (By "Civis"). Smith, Elder.
Peers or People? (W. T. Stead). Unwin. 2s. 6d. net.
Reproductions from Illuminated MSS. in the British Museum (Series I. Fifty Plates). Printed by Order of the Trustees. 3s.
Royal Navy List, The, 1907. Witherby. 10s.

REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES FOR FEBRUARY:—The National Review, 2s. 6d.; The Independent Review, 2s. 6d.; The Nineteenth Century, 2s. 6d.; The Contemporary Review, 2s. 6d.; The Fortnightly Review, 2s. 6d.; The Monthly Review, 2s. 6d.; Blackwood's, 2s. 6d.; Macmillan's Magazine, 6d.; The Century Illustrated, 1s. 4d.; The Library, 3s.; The North American Review, 1s.; The Strand Magazine, 6d.; The Grand Magazine, 6d.; The Antiquary, 6d.; Cassell's Magazine, 6d.; Little Folks, 6d.; The Treasury, 6d.; The University Magazine; The Connoisseur, 1s.; Harper's Monthly Magazine, 1s.; The Art Magazine, 1s. 6d.; Ord och Bild (Stockholm), 1 kr.

FOR JANUARY:—The Jewish Quarterly, 6s.; The Economic Review, 3s.

ERRATUM.—In our list of books received last week we stated that "Everest and Strode's Law of Estoppel" was published by Messrs. Stevens and Haynes. We should have written Stevens and Sons, Limited.

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DANTE AND BOTTICELLI—A RENAISSANCE STUDY—ARTHUR SYMONS.
GHOSTS OF PICCADILLY—ALBANY—G. S. STREET.
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E. J. MORRIS, Secretary.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1906.

| Dr. | LIABILITIES. | £ | s. | d. | ASSETS. | £ | s. | d. | Cr. | £ | s. | d. |
|--|--------------|-----------|----|----|---|---------|------------|----|-----|-------------|----|----|
| To Capital Paid up, viz.: £12 10s. per Share on 551,428 Shares of £50 each | | 3,142,850 | 0 | 0 | By Cash in hand and at Bank of England | | 9,783,832 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| Reserve Fund | | 3,142,850 | 0 | 0 | Money at Call and at Short Notice | | 8,299,374 | 17 | 8 | | | |
| Dividend payable on 1st February, 1907 | | 282,856 | 10 | 0 | Investments: | | | | | | | |
| Balance of Profit and Loss Account | | 171,516 | 17 | 2 | Consols and other British Government Securities | | 3,236,859 | 2 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | Stocks Guaranteed by British Government, Indian and British Railway Debt and Preference Stocks, British Corporation Stocks, Colonial and Foreign Government Stocks, &c. | | 3,488,141 | 16 | 4 | | | |
| Current, Deposit, and other Accounts | | 6,740,073 | 7 | 2 | Bills of Exchange | | | | | 6,745,000 | 18 | 5 |
| Acceptances on Account of Customers | | 4,578,990 | 16 | 5 | | | | | | 4,733,429 | 8 | 11 |
| | | | | | | | | | | £29,561,697 | 9 | 5 |
| | | | | | Advances on Current Accounts, Loans on Security, and other Accounts | | 28,040,494 | 19 | 4 | | | |
| | | | | | Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances as per contra | | 4,578,990 | 16 | 5 | | | |
| | | | | | Bank premises at Head Office and Branches | | 1,361,680 | 2 | 6 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | £63,542,863 | 7 | 8 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

The Bank has over 450 Branches and Sub-Branches in London, the suburbs, and throughout the country. It also has Agents in all the principal Cities of the world. Every kind of Banking business is transacted at the Head Office and Branches. Bills, Annuities, Coupons and Dividends are collected in all parts of the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and in Foreign Countries. Purchase and Sale of Stocks and Funds are effected. For the convenience of Customers, monies can be paid in at any of the Branches and advised the same day to their own account. Strong Rooms are provided for the security of Deeds and other property lodged by the Customers of the Bank.

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(part of an issue limited to \$150,000,000)

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Principal due 1st March 1936.

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Redeemable in whole or in part at the Company's option at 105 per cent. and accrued interest on or after 1st March 1914 on twelve weeks' notice.

The above Bonds are convertible, at the option of the holder, at their face value into Common Stock at the price of \$140 per Share of \$100 after 1st March 1909 and before 1st March 1918, and in the event of the Bonds, or any of them, being called in for repayment before 1st March 1918, are convertible at the same price up to thirty days prior to the date fixed for repayment. If additional Stock is issued or sold by the Company at a price averaging less than \$140 per Share, Bondholders will have the benefit of a reduced conversion price as provided by the Trust Deed, and as set forth in the President's letter which accompanies this Prospectus.

The above \$40,000,000 Bonds, being part of a total amount of \$100,000,000 Bonds sold by the Company, are now offered for sale on behalf of the purchasers.

Messrs. BARING BROTHERS & CO., Limited,
Messrs. J. S. MORGAN & CO.,

are prepared to receive applications at the price of 95½ London or £191 per Bond of \$1,000, payable as follows:

| | | | |
|------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| £20 | 0 | 0 | per Bond of \$1,000 on application. |
| 30 | 0 | 0 | " " on allotment. |
| 141 | 0 | 0 | " " on 1st March, 1907. |
| £191 | 0 | 0 | per Bond. |

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The price of the Shares in New York ranged in 1905 between 130 and 148, in 1906 between 128 and 144, and is now 128.

Shareholders of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company making applications for the Bonds will be given a preferential allotment to the extent of one-fifth or 20 per cent. of the par value of their holding of Stock in the Company.

Bonds will be delivered against Letters of Allotment fully paid as soon as practicable.

The first coupon on the Bonds will be for six months' interest payable 1st September, 1907.

The Bonds may be registered as regards both principal and interest or principal only, in the United States.

A copy of the Trust Deed, dated 1st March, 1906, may be inspected at the office of Messrs. BARING BROTHERS & CO., Limited, or of Messrs. J. S. MORGAN & CO.

The failure to pay any instalment when due will render all previous payments liable to forfeiture.

A quotation on the London Stock Exchange will be applied for in due course.

Prospectus and Application Forms may be obtained from Messrs. BARING BROTHERS & CO., Limited, 8 Bishopsgate Within, London, or at their Liverpool Office, 1A India Buildings, Water Street, Liverpool; and from Messrs. J. S. MORGAN & CO., 22 Old Broad Street, London.

The Subscription List will be Closed on or before TUESDAY, 5th FEBRUARY, 1907, and in cases where it is not practicable to make any allotment the amount paid on application will be returned as soon as possible. If only a portion of the amount applied for be allotted, the balance of the deposit will be appropriated towards payment of the remaining instalments.

A copy of the letter from the President of the Company, dated Boston, 26th January, 1907, herein referred to, accompanies the Prospectus.
London, 1st February, 1907.

THE WOLHUTER GOLD MINES LIMITED.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

For the Year ended 31st October, 1906.

Submitted to the Ninth Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders, held in the Board Room, Exploration Buildings, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, 19th December, 1906, at 3 P.M.

To the Shareholders, the Wolhuter Gold Mines, Limited.

GENTLEMEN,—Your Directors beg to submit their Ninth Report, accompanied by the Reports of the Consulting Engineer and Manager, and the Balance Sheet and Financial Statements showing the Company's position as at 31st October, 1906.

PROPERTY.

Your Company's property holdings remain unchanged, and comprise:—
Mynpacht and Claims equal in area to 163'0254 Claims
Bewarplaatsen and Water-right equal in area to 16'4465 "
179'4729 "

together with the freehold rights over this area.

MINING OPERATIONS.

The Manager's and Consulting Engineer's Reports deal fully with the year under consideration. The total payable ore reserves at the close of the year stand at 279,854 tons, being a decrease of 16,769 tons upon last year's figure.

MILLING.

In their last Report your Directors informed you that a sum of £50,483 was received from the insurance companies in full settlement of the Company's claim for the destruction of the Mill by fire on the 17th August, 1905. Your Directors considered this settlement a fair one, when depreciation was taken into account. It was decided, when rebuilding the Mill, to increase the number of stamps to 120, and to put in stamps of a heavier calibre. The cost of this new Mill, with the necessary additions to the cyanide and slimes installation, was estimated at £100,000, of which £88,527 18s. 1d. have been expended to 31st October, leaving £11,472 18s. 11d. still to be spent. The difference between the cost of the enlarged plant, viz. £100,000, and the amount received from the insurance companies, viz. £50,483, has been provided for by a loan of £49,517, bearing interest at 6 per cent. per annum.

Crushing operations with the new Mill were resumed on the 19th February, that is to say, exactly six months after the date of the fire. When it is borne in mind that the dispute with some of the insurance companies interested delayed the commencement of building operations by quite six weeks, it will be admitted that the erection of the new Mill establishes a record on these fields, and reflects the greatest credit upon your Consulting Mechanical Engineer, Mr. Cook, and upon your Manager, Mr. Robertson.

During the period from 19th February, 1906, to 31st October, 1906, 142,450 tons of ore were milled, yielding an average recovery of 6'668 dwts. per ton, or 28s. 5'36d. per ton, leaving a profit of £47,556 ros. 10d., or 6s. 8'123d. per ton.

FINANCIAL.

The Appropriation Account may be summarised in the following manner:—

| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|--|-------|----|----|--------|----|----|
| Credit— | | | | | | |
| Balance brought forward from 31st October, 1905 | | | | 24,296 | 9 | 2 |
| Profit on Working from 19th February, 1906, to 31st October, 1906 | | | | 47,556 | 10 | 10 |
| Freight Rebate on Gold and Sundry Revenue .. | | | | 1,250 | 19 | 3 |
| | | | | 73,109 | 19 | 3 |
| Less— | | | | | | |
| Auditors' Fees for previous year, Expenses in connection with fire and during the stoppage | 3,746 | 0 | 8 | | | |
| Interest on Loan and Bank Overdraft | 7,136 | 2 | 4 | | | |
| | | | | 10,932 | 3 | 0 |
| Leaving a Balance of | | | | 62,177 | 16 | 3 |

It will be noticed from the Balance-sheet that up to the 31st October, 1906 £179,962 19s. 6d. have been expended on capital account over and above the capital raised; the balance of the unappropriated profits, amounting to £62,177 16s. 3d., has therefore been written off to reduce this figure. The Company's overdraft and loan amount to £125,560 12s. 1d.

The capital expenditure during the past year has been as follows:—

| | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|--|--------|----|----|---------|----|----|
| New Reduction Plant— | | | | | | |
| Buildings | 7,062 | 2 | 4 | | | |
| Machinery and Plant | 78,133 | 13 | 3 | | | |
| | | | | 85,195 | 15 | 7 |
| Other Capital Expenditure— | | | | | | |
| Purchase of Freehold | 6,735 | 9 | 2 | | | |
| Buildings | 3,257 | 17 | 5 | | | |
| Machinery and Plant | 5,613 | 2 | 7 | | | |
| Shafts | 1,905 | 11 | 7 | | | |
| Mine Development (less Development Redemption) | 5,697 | 19 | 0 | | | |
| Dams and Reservoirs | 405 | 15 | 1 | | | |
| Live Stock, Vehicles, &c. | 47 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Furniture | 46 | 9 | 6 | | | |
| | | | | 23,799 | 4 | 4 |
| Less— | | | | | | |
| Amount received from Fire Insurance Companies | 50,483 | 0 | 1 | | | |
| Proceeds of Sales of Machinery | 634 | 2 | 5 | | | |
| | | | | 51,117 | 2 | 6 |
| | | | | £57,877 | 17 | 5 |

Several transfers from one capital account to another have been made during the past year, to bring the various headings into line with the general scheme of accounts adopted in the group.

STAFF.

During the year your Consulting Engineer, Mr. S. C. Thomson, was granted six months' leave of absence to Europe, the Assistant Consulting Engineer, Mr. D. Wilkinson, being appointed to act for him.

Your acknowledgments are due to both these officials and to your Manager, Mr. A. R. Robertson, and his staff for the able and zealous manner in which they have carried out their duties during the year.

DIRECTORATE.

You will be asked to confirm the appointment of Mr. F. Francois as a Director of the Company in the place of Mr. F. Drake, who resigned his seat on the Board, and of Mr. H. O'Kelly Webber in place of Mr. F. Francois, who has also resigned his seat. Your Directors take this opportunity of placing on record their high appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the Company by Messrs. Drake and Francois during their tenure of office.

In terms of the Company's Articles of Association, all your Directors retire from office, but, being eligible, they offer themselves for re-election. The retiring Directors are Messrs. W. H. Dawe, C. S. Goldmann, J. Berlein, J. H. Ryan, R. W. Schumacher, W. T. Graham, Sir George Farrar and H. O'Kelly Webber.

AUDITORS.

The retiring Auditors are Messrs. A. Eckart-Beckmann and H. J. Macrae, who being eligible, seek re-appointment. You will be asked to appoint Auditors for the ensuing year, and to fix the remuneration for the past audit.

We are, Gentlemen, obediently yours,

W. H. DAWE, Chairman.
R. GOLDMANN,
W. T. GRAHAM,
F. J. CARPENTER,
S. C. BLACK,
J. H. RYAN,
J. E. GRIEVESON,
H. O'K. WEBBER, } Directors.

Johannesburg, 8th December, 1906.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st October, 1906.

| DR. | £ | s. | d. | £ | s. | d. |
|--|---------|----|----|------------|----|----|
| To Capital— | | | | | | |
| 25,000 Shares of £4 sterling each, fully paid | | | | 260,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Funds transferred from Appropriation Account— | | | | | | |
| For Capital Expenditure in excess of Working Capital provided | | | | 62,177 | 16 | 3 |
| Sundry Shareholders— | | | | | | |
| Unclaimed Dividends, as per Schedule .. | | | | 311 | 1 | 5 |
| Creditors— | | | | | | |
| Native Wages, Trade Accounts, &c., outstanding | | | | 11,521 | 14 | 11 |
| Gold Reserve Account | | | | 8,432 | 11 | 6 |
| Loan Account | 40,000 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| National Bank of South Africa, Limited— | | | | | | |
| Overdraft on Current Account | 85,560 | 12 | 1 | 125,560 | 12 | 1 |
| Contingent Liability on Shares— | | | | | | |
| Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, Limited— | | | | | | |
| 382 Shares at 8s. | | | | £152 | 16 | 0 |
| Chamber of Mines Labour Importation Agency, Limited— | | | | | | |
| 1,911 Shares at 42s. | | | | 4,013 | 2 | 0 |
| | | | | £4,165 | 18 | 0 |
| | | | | £1,068,003 | 16 | 3 |
| CR. | | | | | | |
| By Property— | | | | | | |
| Mining Claims, Mynpachts and Water Rights, as per last Account | 506,151 | 18 | 10 | | | |
| Purchase Price of Freehold of Mining Claims and Machine Stand | 6,500 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Transfer Duty, Survey, and Legal Expenses .. | 235 | 9 | 2 | | | |
| | | | | 512,887 | 8 | 0 |
| Buildings | | | | 35,984 | 1 | 9 |
| Machinery and Plant | | | | 198,123 | 13 | 0 |
| Main Vertical Shaft | 45,913 | 2 | 2 | | | |
| East Incline Shaft | 26,391 | 16 | 2 | | | |
| Main Incline Shaft | 22,913 | 19 | 0 | | | |
| West Incline Shaft | 998 | 9 | 2 | | | |
| Mill Shaft | 157 | 11 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | 96,374 | 17 | 7 |
| Mine Development | 8,936 | 15 | 3 | 180,791 | 12 | 1 |
| Dams and Reservoirs | 3,320 | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Railway Coal Siding | 83 | 0 | 0 | | | |
| Fencing | | | | 19,594 | 16 | 4 |
| Live Stock, Vehicles and Harness | 416 | 0 | 5 | | | |
| Furniture | 563 | 19 | 4 | 979 | 19 | 9 |
| Witwatersrand Native Labour Association, Ltd.—382 Shares of £1 each, 12s. paid and 25s. per Share deposit for boys | | | | 706 | 14 | 0 |
| Chamber of Mines Labour Importation Agency, Ltd.—1,911 Shares of £3 each, 18s. per Share paid-up | 1,719 | 18 | 0 | 2,426 | 12 | 0 |
| | | | | 1,039,962 | 19 | 6 |
| Bearer Share Warrants | | | | 796 | 5 | 6 |
| Sundry Debtors, &c. | | | | 3,656 | 15 | 4 |
| Stores on Hand and in Suspense | | | | 13,978 | 13 | 0 |
| | | | | 18,431 | 13 | 10 |
| Unclaimed Dividend Account— | | | | | | |
| Standard Bank of S. Africa, London | 237 | 4 | 5 | | | |
| Do. do. Johannesburg | 73 | 17 | 0 | | | |
| | | | | 311 | 1 | 5 |
| Gold Consignment Account— | | | | | | |
| Gold in transit | | | | 8,747 | 0 | 9 |
| Cash— | | | | | | |
| Mine Office | 530 | 10 | 0 | | | |
| Parr's Bank, Ltd., London | 30 | 10 | 8 | | | |
| | | | | 531 | 0 | 8 |
| | | | | £1,068,003 | 16 | 3 |

H. G. L. PANCHAUD, Secretary.

W. H. DAWE, Chairman.
W. T. GRAHAM,
F. J. CARPENTER, } Directors.

We hereby certify that we have examined the Books and Vouchers of The Wolhuter Gold Mines, Limited, for the year ended 31st October, 1906, and that the Balance Sheet and Appropriation Account represent a true and correct statement of the Company's affairs on that date.

A. ECKART-BECKMANN, } Auditors.
H. J. MACRAE,
Incorporated Accountants (Eng.).

Johannesburg, 10th November, 1906.

SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------------|
| CAPITAL—Paid Up | - - - - | £3,000,000 |
| Uncalled | - - - - | 2,300,000 |
| Reserve Liability | - - - - | 10,600,000 |
| Subscribed Capital | - - - - | £15,900,000 |

RESERVE FUND (invested in English Government Securities), **£2,350,000.**

NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS, 16,296.

DIRECTORS.

COLIN FREDERICK CAMPBELL, Esq.
MAURICE OTHO FITZGERALD, Esq.
WILLIAM HENRY NEVILLE GOSCHEN, Esq.
CLAUDE VILLIERS EMILIUS LAURIE, Esq.
FRANCIS CHARLES LE MARCHANT, Esq.
THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LICHFIELD.

SIR JAMES LYLE MACKAY, G.C.M.G., K.C.I.E.
GEORGE FORBES MALCOLMSON, Esq.
WILLIAM ROBERT MOBERLY, Esq.
SELWYN ROBERT PRYOR, Esq.
THOMAS GEORGE ROBINSON, Esq.
ROBERT WIGRAM, Esq.

JOINT GENERAL MANAGERS.

ROBERT T. HAINES, Esq., THOMAS ESTALL, Esq., and D. J. H. CUNNICK, Esq.

SOLICITORS.

ERNEST JAMES WILDE, Esq.

WALTER EDWARD MOORE, Esq.

The Directors have the pleasure to submit the Balance Sheet for the year 1906, and to report that after making provision for all bad and doubtful debts, and for the rebate of discount on current bills, the profit, including £90,216 8s. 10d. brought forward, amounts to £711,017 13s. 8d., which has been appropriated as follows:—

| | | | |
|--|----------|----|----|
| Interim Dividend of 8 per cent. paid in August last .. | £ | s. | d. |
| A further Dividend of 9 per cent. (making 17 per cent. for the year, free of Income Tax), payable 8th proximo .. | 240,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Transferred to Reserve Fund .. | 270,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Applied to Writing down Investments .. | 50,000 | 0 | 0 |
| Balance carried forward to 1907 .. | 60,000 | 0 | 0 |
| | 91,017 | 13 | 8 |
| | £711,017 | 13 | 8 |

The Directors retiring by rotation are The Earl of Lichfield, Sir James L. Mackay, G.C.M.G., K.C.I.E., and Colin F. Campbell, Esq., all of whom, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors have to announce the retirement in September last of Mr. F. Churchward, one of the General Managers, after a long and faithful service of fifty years, during twenty-five of which he had occupied the position of Joint General Manager. Mr. D. J. H. Cunnick, who has been Assistant General Manager for the last three years, has been appointed a Joint General Manager.

During the past year a Branch of the Bank has been opened at Coventry, which will doubtless still further strengthen the Bank's position in the Midland Counties. In conformity with the Act of Parliament, the Shareholders are required to elect the Auditors and fix their remuneration. Mr. Edwin Waterhouse and Mr. William Barclay Peat (of Messrs. W. B. Peat & Co.) the retiring Auditors, offer themselves for re-election.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1906.

| LIABILITIES. | | | | ASSETS. | | | |
|--|----|----|-------------|---------|----|---|------------------|
| Capital— | | | £ | s. | d. | | |
| 40,000 Shares of £75 each, £10 10s. paid .. | .. | .. | 420,000 | 0 | 0 | Cash— | |
| 215,000 " £60 " £12 " .. | .. | .. | 2,580,000 | 0 | 0 | At Bank of England and at Head Office and Branches .. | 8,602,609 10 8 |
| | | | | | | At Call and Short Notice .. | 5,040,041 6 3 |
| Reserve Fund .. | .. | .. | 3,000,000 | 0 | 0 | | £13,642,650 17 4 |
| Current, Deposit, and other Accounts, including rebate on bills not due, provision for bad and doubtful debts, contingencies, &c. .. | .. | .. | 2,350,000 | 0 | 0 | Investments— | |
| Acceptances and Endorsements of Foreign Bills on Account of Customers .. | .. | .. | 54,241,561 | 19 | 4 | English Government Securities .. | £8,665,417 1 10 |
| Profit and Loss Account— | | | | | | (Of which £75,500 is lodged for public accounts.) | |
| Balance of Profit and Loss Account including £90,216 8s. 10d. brought from year 1905 .. | .. | .. | £711,017 | 13 | 8 | Indian and Colonial Government Securities; Debenture, Guaranteed, and Preference Stocks of British Railways; British Corporation and Waterworks Stocks .. | 4,897,516 8 5 |
| Less Interim Dividend, 8 per cent. paid in August last .. | .. | .. | 240,000 | 0 | 0 | Canal, Dock, River Conservancy, and other Investments .. | 322,769 2 4 |
| Less Dividend of 9 per cent. payable 8th February next .. | .. | .. | 270,000 | 0 | 0 | | 13,955,702 12 7 |
| Less Transferred to Reserve Fund .. | .. | .. | 50,000 | 0 | 0 | Liability of Customers for Acceptances, &c., as per Contra .. | 648,699 0 5 |
| Less Applied to writing down Investments .. | .. | .. | 60,000 | 0 | 0 | Bills Discounted, Loans, &c. .. | 31,439,523 12 5 |
| | | | 620,000 | 0 | 0 | Bank Premises in London and Country .. | 638,702 20 0 |
| | | | | | | | £60,331,278 13 5 |
| | | | 91,017 | 13 | 8 | | |
| | | | £60,331,278 | 13 | 5 | | |

M. O. FITZGERALD,
G. F. MALCOLMSON,
ROBERT WIGRAM, } Directors.

R. T. HAINES,
T. ESTALL,
D. J. H. CUNNICK, } Joint General Managers.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act, 1900, we certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with; and we report that we have ascertained the correctness of the Cash Balances and the Money at Call and Short Notice at the Head Office, and the securities representing the investments of the Bank; and having examined the Balance Sheet in detail with the books at the Head Office and with the certified returns from each Branch, we are of opinion that such Balance Sheet is full and fair and properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs, as shown by such Books and Returns.

18th January, 1907.

EDWIN WATERHOUSE,
WILLIAM BARCLAY PEAT, } Auditors.

At the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (ROBERT WIGRAM, Esq., in the chair) the above report was adopted. The retiring Directors, the EARL OF LICHFIELD, SIR JAMES L. MACKAY, G.C.M.G., K.C.I.E., and COLIN F. CAMPBELL, Esq., were re-elected.

Mr. EDWIN WATERHOUSE and Mr. WILLIAM BARCLAY PEAT were reappointed Auditors for the current year. The best thanks of the Proprietors were given to the Directors, General Managers, Branch Managers, and other officers of the Bank for their efficient services, and to the Chairman for his able conduct in the chair.

The National Provincial Bank of England, Limited, having numerous branches in England and Wales, as well as Agents and Correspondents at home and abroad, affords great facilities to its customers, who may have money transmitted to the credit of their Accounts through any of the Branches, free of charge.

At Head Office and Metropolitan Branches, Deposits are received and interest allowed thereon at the rates advertised by the Bank in the London newspapers from time to time, and Current Accounts are conducted on the usual terms.

At the Country Branches Current Accounts are opened, Deposits received, and all other Banking business conducted.

The Bank undertakes the Agency of Private and Joint Stock Banks, also the Purchase and Sale of all British and Foreign Stocks and Shares, and the collection of Dividends, Annuities, &c.

Circular Notes and Letters of Credit, payable at the principal towns abroad, are issued for the use of Travellers.

The Officers of the Bank are bound to secrecy as regards the transactions of its customers.

Copies of the Annual Report of the Bank, Lists of Branches, Agents and Correspondents may be had on application at the Head Office, and at any of the Bank's Branches.

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